FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 AUGUST 1984

Lebanon

Israeli Air Raid — Israeli Air Force planes attacked a "terrorist" base in the Al-Biqa' valley region that served as a regional command headquarters for "launching attacks," Jerusalem radio reported. While Beirut radio identified the base as belonging to the PFLP-GC Palestinian group, Jerusalem radio described the target as a base used by members of the dissident Fatah faction led by Sa'id Musa Muragha. During a press conference in Shtawrah, Al-Biqa' reported by Radio Monte Carlo, Sa'id Musa had earlier claimed responsibility for placing a bomb in Jerusalem that was intended to destroy the Herut Party headquarters. Jerusalem radio had reported that an "explosive charge" in a car was successfully defused in Jerusalem on 15 August. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens denied that the air strike was linked to the bombing attempt, but rather was part of the "continuous fight against terrorism everywhere."

Iranian Envoy — The Iranian charge d'affaires arrived in Beirut to resume his duties following the restoration of relations between Lebanon and Iran, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Red Sea

The Cypriot vessel *Theoupolis* became the 17th ship to hit a mine in the Red Sea when it sustained "serious damage" on 15 August, Nicosia radio reported, citing Lloyd's of London. Meanwhile, MENA noted the arrival at Suez of a U.S. naval vessel with minehunter helicopters on board that will participate in mine sweeping operations along with British and French ships.

Gulf Conflict

The Pakistani tanker *Johar* was attacked on 15 August near Bahrain by an "unidentified" aircraft as the vessel was on its way to Saudi Arabia, Karachi radio reported. The two missiles fired at the ship missed, and no damage was sustained. Monitored Iranian and Arab sources have not mentioned the attack.

Maghreb

Libya-Morocco Union — The recently announced union between Libya and Morocco is "not directed against anybody," and Algeria and Tunisia have been invited to join, according to official Moroccan sources cited by the London paper *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*. The Moroccan king's adviser stated that Syria has also been invited to "accede" to the agreement as a first step toward other Arab countries' involvement, the paper added.

In a related development, diplomatic sources in Paris cited by KUNA stated that Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had proposed during his talks with Algerian and Tunisian leaders that a summit meeting be held on 1 September in Tripoli.

Libya-SFRY Agreement — Libya and Yugoslavia signed a military cooperation agreement during the visit to Belgrade by Libyan Armed Forces Inspector General Mustafa al-Kharrubi, JANA reported.

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Yasir 'Arafat Receives Senegal's UN Envoy

JN161710 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received Massamba Sarre, chairman of the International Committee for the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights and Senegal's permanent UN representative, and the accompanying committee members. Our correspondent said that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar affirmed to the committee the PLO's eagerness to uphold international legitimacy and implement the international resolutions on the Palestinian issue. Our correspondent added that the committee members acquainted Brother Abu 'Ammar with the committee's preparations for its meeting.

PLO's Ad-Dajani Views Soviet Proposals

PM161611 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 15 Aug 84 p7

[PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani article: "The Soviet Settlement Proposals: The Timing and the Principles"]

[Excerpts] After spending a week in Tunis on Palestinian action affairs, I had to leave for Damascus where I spent 4 busy days following up efforts for a comprehensive dialogue in order to convene the PNC. I returned from there intending to write about the "Soviet Proposals for a Middle East Settlement" which the TASS News Agency reported from Moscow on 29 July 1984, giving priority to this subject in view of its importance over another subject, "Quiet Diplomacy and the Hostile Media," which I will discuss some other time.

During my meetings in Tunis, Damascus, and Cairo we had intensive discussions of the Soviet proposals with a number of Palestinian and Arab brothers concerned with Palestinian action. At the PLO Executive Committee we followed with interest the reactions to the proposals and expressed our views on them. In previous articles I have discussed Reagan's initiative announced 1 September 1982, the Arab Fes resolutions issued a few days later, and the new European declaration of 1 March 1984, all of which dealt with the settlement.

The United States and Israel could not have been quicker in rejecting the [Soviet] proposals following their announcement. The British reaction indicated the timing was not suitable. French reaction was positive in tone and called for a study of the proposals. We read in the press a statement by an FRG official describing the proposals as "mere talk." The PLO's reaction was immediately positive, and a Jordanian Foreign Ministry spokesman also reacted positively.

It is natural that interest be shown in the proposals because they come from a superpower which influences the regional Arab-Israeli conflict and has a say in various world problems — just like the other superpower, the United States.

Referring to the parties to the settlement, the proposals define the role of the two superpowers which is worth examining. It says: "The participants in the conference should include the Soviet Union and the United States who, because of existing circumstances, play an important role in the problems of the Middle East and were co-chairmen of the previous conference on the Middle East."

After reading the text of the Soviet proposals, the first thing that came to mind was to refer back to previous Soviet statements on the "Middle East problems." In preparing this article I reviewed all the documents and studies in my office on this matter. I paused before the late Soviet President Brezhnev's initiative of 16 September 1982 he proposed following Reagan's initiative and the Arab Fes resolutions, and compared it with the new Soviet proposals. I then read Brezhnev's proposal that he, as CPSU general secretary, placed before the 26th CPSU Congress, and went back to a book by Ye. M. Primakov, a leading Soviet specialist on the Palestinian problem, entitled "Analyzing the Middle East Conflict" in order to review all the previous Soviet proposals.

The question that came to the fore following the TASS release of the Soviet proposals was: Why their announcement now, and how are we to interpret the timing of the announcement? What is interesting is the fact that the announcement was made via the press agency and not made on a particular occasion, as was the case at the 1981 CPSU Congress. Nor was it made following other initiatives, such as Brezhnev's 1982 initiative. Can it be said, in answering this question, that the Soviet Union timed the announcement with an eye on the Israeli elections and the U.S. election?

Naturally, the Soviet Union has observed the political election programs put forward by the Israeli parties and noted the West generally was wagering on the success of a Labor Party alignment under Shimon Peres' leadership, Peres having proposed a separate settlement with Jordan. Therefore, the Soviet Union wanted to make all the parties concerned aware of its proposals for a comprehensive settlement. As expected, the Soviet Union has also been following the U.S. election campaign and has taken note of the competition between Mondale and Hart, the Democratic Party candidates, to attractthe "Zionist center of power," and the contest between the Republican and Democratic Parties to the same end. Therefore, the Soviet Union wanted to remind the United States of its views.

What do the new Soviet proposals contain, what is new in them, and what is the difference between the Soviet and U.S. views of a settlement?

The text released by TASS contains a preamble, an explanation of the principles of the settlement, a method of reaching this settlement, and a conclusion. In the preamble the Soviet Union expresses its concern that the situation in the Middle East remains explosive, in view of the effect this has on the vital interests of the people of the area and on the interests of world security in general, making it necessary to expedite a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement of the conflict. The Soviet Union expresses its firm belief that the preparation for and implementation of such a settlement can only be achieved through collective efforts and the joint participation of all parties concerned, and for this reason and out of a desire to assist in the peace process it is submitting its proposals.

The proposals contain six clearly and carefully worded principles for a settlement. The first is the inadmissibility of the seizure of land by force, through aggression. In the Soviet view this principle means returning to the Arabs all the Arab lands Israel has occupied since 1967. These lands are: "the Golan Heights, the West Bank of the Jordan, the Gaza Strip, and the Lebanese territory." It also means "the need to remove the settlements which Israel has built up on these lands, and that the borders between Israel and its Arab neighbors be declared inviolable."

The second principle concerns "the Palestinian people's established right to consider the PLO its sole legitimate representative in determining its future and establishing an independent state on the Palestinian territory to be liberated from Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza." And in accordance with the Fes summit resolution, the West Bank and Gaza "can be handed over by Israel under UN supervision within a short period of time not exceeding a few months on the condition of acceptance by the Palestinians themselves."

The third principle concerns "the eastern sector of Jerusalem that Israel occupied in 1967 and where one of the principal Islamic holy places is located." This sector "should be returned to the Arabs and become an established part of the Palestinian state." Also, "the freedom of all believers to have access toJerusalem to the holy places of all three religions should be guaranteed."

The fourth principle concerns "the right of all countries in the area to exist and to secure an independent development.

The fifth principle concerns "the need to end the state of war and establish peace between the Arab countries and Israel." In the Soviet understanding this means the parties to the conflict, including Israel and the Palestinian state, "should pledge to reciprocally recognize one another's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity by peaceful means and through negotiations."

The sixth and final principle concerns "the need to provide guarantees for the settlement." In the Soviet Union's view the Security Council as a whole can act as the guarantor, and the Soviet Union is prepared to participate in such guarantees.

If we look at these six principles we find that they are identical to Brezhnev's initiative of 16 September 1982 and are partly contained in Brezhnev's proposal of 1981, which generally represent the Soviet view on the settlement of the conflict and which Primakov explained. Also, when we look at these six principles we find that the September 1982 version took into consideration the wording of the eight-point Arab peace plan endorsed by the Fes summit. It is recalled that the Soviet Union welcomed and supported the plan.

What is important to us is the wording of the principles contained in the Soviet proposals that decidedly defines the understanding of each principle, whereas the United States has been biased in its interpretation of principles and contradictory in its adherence to resolution 242. As a result, the United States has kept silent on the need for an Israeli withdrawal and on the illegality of the settlements.

It must be placed on record here that this decisiveness in defining the understanding of every principle is extremely important at this juncture. Herein lies the importance of the first part of the Soviet proposals, which actually contains nothing new. The new element is in the second part on the method of reaching a settlement, a subject meriting a special article.

Fatah Dissident Leader on Resistance Operations

JN161728 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1705 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] This morning, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the opposition wing in the Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the unsuccessful operation that took place in the center of Jerusalem yesterday. At a press conference in Shtawrah, in Al-Biqa', Abu Musa said that the operation was aborted at the last moment. However, he did not explain why it failed. Abu Musa also said his movement has decided to transfer the battle to the occupied territories, and in recent months it had carried out several operations in these areas,

At his press conference, Abu Musa once again attacked Yasir 'Arafat and called for removing him as PLO leader. He called on the Palestinian Democratic Alliance to resume dialogue with the National Alliance, which comprises the opposition members within Fatah, As-Sa'iqah, and the PFLP-GC. Abu Musa said that there is complete understanding between the Palestinian National Alliance and Damascus and added that he opposes the cancellation of the Cairo agreement signed between Lebanon and the PLO. Abu Musa also said that he opposes the return of Palestinian fighters to Beirut because they must remain on the front with Israel.

Dissidents Say Israeli Raid on Al-Biqa' Failed

JN170603 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Al-'Asifah forces organization, the military wing of the Fatah dissident movement, has stated that the Israeli Air Force raid on Palestinian fighters in Al-Biqa' yesterday did not realize its aims. He added that the raid was aimed at Colonel Abu Musa's [Sa'id Muragha] command center, but it missed its target. He also said that the raid did not harm civilians. In a military communique, the Israelis announced Israel's Air Force raided a Fatah dissident base near Barr Ilyas in northern Al-Biqa' and the raiding planes returned safely to base.

Resistance Attacks in South Lebanon Reported

JN161735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian-Lebanese national resistance men are intensifying their heroic operations against the members and equipment of the Zionist invasion forces and the militias of the so-called army of south Lebanon, inflicting on them further losses of life and equipment.

A resistance group today launched a rocket attack against a Zionist military position near Tyre in occupied southern Lebanon. Several Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded. Another resistance group today launched a rocket attack against a Zionist military position near Kamid al-Lawz in eastern Lebanon. Several Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded. A third resistance group yesterday launched a rocket and hand grenade attack against a position belonging to the militias of the so-called army of south Lebanon in occupied southern Lebanon. Several agent elements were killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the heroic attacks but, as usual, did not mention any losses. He said that his forces carried out an extensive search and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of searching for the resistance men. However, their search was in vain.

Cypriot Steamer Hits Mine in Red Sea

NC161314 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A Cypriot steamer hit a mine in the Red Sea sustaining serious damage. According to Lloyd's of London the steamer *Theoupolis*, with a displacement of nearly 12,000 tons, hit a mine last night, seriously damaging its engine room. At least 17 ships have been damaged by mine explosions in the Red Sea. It is expected that operations to clear this sea of mines — the origin of which continues to remain unknown — will start within the next 24 hours. Minesweepers and helicopters from the United States, Britain, and France will be taking part in the operation.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: Pakistani Tanker Attacked Near Qatar

NC161344 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Manama, Aug 16 (AFP) — A Pakistani tanker was attacked off Qatar last night by an unidentified plane which fired two missiles, just missing the ship, maritime sources said here today, confirming a report by the ship's owners. It was the first time a ship from Pakistan, which has remained neutral in the Iran-Iraq war, had been attacked in raids on shipping in the Gulf.

The *Johar*, which has a capacity of 90,000 tonnes, had safely reached the Saudi Arabian port of Ra's at-Tannurah, where it was due to take on a load of crude oil, the maritime sources said. The Pakistani ship was attacked in the same region as the Kuwaiti tanker (*Kazman*), which was hit on June 10 about 150 kms (90 miles) off the Qatar coast and 90 kms (55 miles) from Iran in an attack believed to have been carried out by Iran.

Maritime sources here said the attack on the *Johar* could well have been a reprisal attack by Iran following the resumption of Iraqi attacks on tankers near Iran's Khark Island oil terminal earlier this month. Iraq has not claimed to have carried out any attacks in the Gulf yesterday or today, and given the location of the *Johar*, the maritime sources said, the attack could well have been carried out by an Iranian plane. The attack took place more than 500 kms (300 miles) from the Iraqi coast, and was aimed at a ship headed for Saudi Arabia, known to support Iraq in the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war, they added.

KUWAIT

'Diplomatic Source' on USSR, U.S. Arms Deals

GF161755 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 15 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] "The absence of the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, who is on his normal, annual leave, cannot affect the protocols and procedures concerning the Soviet military delegation which is visiting Kuwait to complete the agreement on the arms deal." This was how a diplomatic source yesterday followed up on the visit which a Soviet military delegation is paying to Kuwait to negotiate an arms deal, expected to be signed at the end of this week, completing the details of the negotiations that Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah recently held in Moscow.

At the end of last week the defense minister announced that the final signing of the Soviet arms deal will take place during a Soviet military delegation's visit to Kuwait. This is the delegation that arrived in the country at the beginning of this week. In his statement to *AS-SIYASAH*, the diplomatic source referred to the statement made by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, at the inauguration ceremony of the naval ships last week. He also referred to the press conference of Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah regarding an imminent arms deal for the modernization of the air and ground defenses.

The source added that it is no secret internationally that Kuwait will sign three arms agreements with the United States in addition to the Soviet arms deal because of Kuwait's belief in obtaining arms from different sources and in varying training techniques. The first agreement will concern the modernization of the rocket systems. The second agreement will deal with the use of information obtained from the AWACS planes. This is the information which the defense minister has referred to as being marginal or nonexistent when the AWACS planes are far away in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula. The third agreement will deal with training 150 Kuwaiti pilots on the most modern air defense weapons.

The information of this diplomatic source leads to the conclusion that according to these arms deals with the Soviets and the Americans, Kuwait is still clearly adhering to three fundamental principles:

1. All efforts, attention, and resources are directed toward protecting the homeland and are in the hands of its sons.

2. There is no restriction on the source of arms except that imposed on the quality and their suitability for the national defense requirements. That is why Kuwait has previously purchased arms from Britain, France, and many other Western and Eastern states. Consequently, the Soviet or U.S. arms deals do not carry any political connotations.

3. All the concerned parties know that Kuwait is still eager to keep the secrecy of these arms systems. Secrecy here, does not mean the number of planes, trainees, or the like, because this information will be immediately known in the international arms circles. It means keeping secret the technical specifications of the various arms systems. Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah has stressed on more than one occasion that this subject has been dealt with and is known internationally.

OMAN

Joint Exercises Held With Saudi Air Force

GF161558 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Within the framework of joint cooperation between the GCC countries the Omani Sultan's Air Force and the the fraternal Saudi Royal Air Force held an exercise with live ammunition at the Thamarit Airbase this morning. During this exercise the pilots demonstrated their capability and efficiency. The pilots

participating in this exercise struck at targets and scored with full accuracy. The Jaguar and Hunter planes from the Omani Sultan's Air Force and F-5's from the Saudi Royal Air Force participated in this exercise.

This is the third of exercise in which the Omani Sultan's Air Force have participated with the fraternal air forces of the GCC countries. The exercise was witnessed by Staff Major General Hasan ibn Ihsan an-Nassib, under secretary of the Defense Ministry and assistant of chief of staff; Staff Major General Ahmad al-Buhayri, commander of the At-Ta'if Airbase; Brigadier General Pilot Fahd al-'Abdallah, director of the air operations in the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Major General Yusuf al-Madani, chairman of the GCC Military Committee; the commander of Omani Sultan's Air Force; the commander of Thamarit Airbase; Staff Colonel Pilot Muhammad ibn Mubarak al-'Amri, deputy commander of operations of the Omani Sultan's Air Force; and a number of officers of Omani Sultan's Air Force and the Saudi Royal Air Forces.

SAUDI ARABIA

KUNA: Moscow Seeks Riyadh's Support for Proposals

LD161405 Kuwait KUNA in English 1242 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] London, Aug 16 (KUNA) — Fresh official contacts had been made between the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia in the last few days in which Moscow was seeking Riyadh's support for its peace plan for the Middle East, a London-based Arabic publication has reported. *AT-TADAMON* news-magazine would not reveal, in its edition to be published this Saturday, any further details about these exchanges, but it recalled that this development came only few months after the Saudi Ambassador to Britain met his Soviet counterpart to deliver an official Saudi request for Moscow to support the GCC draft resolution to the Security Council about Iranian attacks against tankers in the Gulf.

PDRY

AFP: Diplomat 'Citically Wounded' in Spain

NC171302 Paris AFP in English 1256 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Madrid, Aug 17 (AFP) — A South Yemeni diplomat vacationing in Spain was critically wounded by gunmen on a motorcycle in a residential quarter here, police said today. Two men on a motorcycle approached the car the diplomat was driving on the Paseo de la Castellana and one fired point-black at the back of the diplomat's head, police said.

The two passengers in the BMW car, a Yemeni and a Syrian, were not wounded. A witness said that after the shots were fired, the two men jumped out of the car and hid behind it. When the motorcycle drove away, they pulled out the victim, who was hospitalized in La Paz Clinic in critical condition. An official of the Arab League identified him as 'Awad Salim, a South Yemeni diplomat who had recently driven to Madrid from Barcelona during his vacation. The official said he did not know where Mr Salim was posted.

The attack, which was not immediately claimed, took place about a hundred meters (yards) from the offices here of the Arab League. On August 5, the owner of a pro-Iraqi Kuwaiti newspaper in Marbella, southern Spain, escaped a similar attack, but his Pakistani chauffeur was killed.

Chairman Addresses Military College Officers

GF161927 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid an inspection visit this morning to the military college and the school of the chiefs of staff. The brother secretary general delivered an instructive speech to the heads of educational branches and the officers of the college and praised the great achievements made by the college, thanks to the efforts of the heads and officials of the Defense Ministry and college, in implementation of the YSP's policy which stresses the development of the Armed Forces. In his speech, he also reviewed the political developments in the Arab region, the international situation, and the intensification of the military moves and hostile plots of the U.S.-Zionist alliance forces.

The brother secretary general referred to the incidents of mines in the Red Sea waters, pointing out that those serious incidents are not dissociated from the hostile moves and goals of the imperialist forces, which have continuously distributed their military bases and vessels in the region's waters, created tension, and searched for justifications to interfere in the affairs of this region and impose their hegemony. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed the importance of strengthening the solidarity of the progressive forces in the countries overlooking the Red Sea.

Industry Minister Returns From USSR Visit

GF161513 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee, minister of industry, and chairman of the Oil and Minerals Committee, returned to Aden this morning after a visit to the Soviet Union. During his visit, he led the delegation of the Oil and Minerals Committee to the 27th International Geological Conference in the Soviet Union which was held from 4 to 14 August.

Briefs

Outgoing Algerian Envoy — Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers received Brother Mohamed Qadir today at the conclusion of his assignment as the ambassador of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria in Aden. [Summary] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Aug 84 GF]

YAR

Briefs

Saudi Aid — Jidda, 15 Aug (WAKH) — North Yemeni Electricity and Water Minister Muhammad Hasan Sabra said that Saudi Arabia's contribution to electricity projects in N. Yemen was 267 million riyals. The Yemeni minister stressed in a statement published in Saudi newspaper *'UKAZ* today that water and sewerage projects in Yemen had been given great priority by the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Council to which Saudi Arabia contributed 198 million Saudi riyals. Sabra expressed his appreciation of Saudi Arabia's support for economic development in Yemen and also spoke of Saudi Arabia's support for electricity and water projects in N. Yemen commencing from the inception of both electricity, and water departments. [Text] [Manama WAKH in English 1640 GMT 15 Aug 84 GF]

Arrival of U.S. Minesweeper Shreveport Noted

NC161401 Cairo MENA in English 1320 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Suez, Aug. 6 (MENA) — U.S. *Shreveport* minesweeper arrived here today with four minehunter helicopters on board to contribute to the clearing operations of the Red Sea of mines. *Shreveport* moved southward to start operations tomorrow with the French, British and Egyptian minesweepers. On the other hand, two French minesweepers that arrived at the naval base here yesterday continued southward to the Red Sea.

Special Command Set Up

NC162154 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — An official source at the Defense Ministry has stated that a special Egyptian command has been formed to direct the search for mines and the clearing operations across our territorial waters in the Red Sea. This command will be coordinating the work done by the units participating in the clearing operations and will assign to these units the specific area in which they will be performing their duties. The units involved are Egyptian, U.S., British, French, and Italian.

In a statement that will be published Friday in the *AL-AHRAM* newspaper, the official source said that certain areas have been assigned in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea for the minesweepers participating in the clearing operations. The newly-established Egyptian command, which is presently situated at the Suez Naval Base, is to command the abovementioned units and coordinate between them. The Egyptian Navy has also been assigned a certain area of operation equal to the other countries participating in the clearing.

The source said that our naval forces are presently escorting the ships carrying pilgrims in the Red Sea and are offering them full protection until they are on the high seas.

Navy Minesweepers Destroy Mine

NC170515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Egyptian Navy minesweepers operating in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea have destroyed a naval mine discovered in the Red Sea today. This is reported by the Friday issue of *AL-JUMHURIYAH* newspaper. This mine is the first to be found by the Egyptian Navy, the paper says.

Assembly Committee Scores Mining

NC161244 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee has stated that the recent mining of the Red Sea is a criminal and irresponsible act that violates every international norm, law, and agreement. In a statement issued today, the committee condemned this act and warned those responsible for it. The committee also expressed Egypt's appreciation for those countries participating in clearing the Red Sea of mines.

The committee clearly stated that the security and stability of the Middle East in general and of the Gulf and the Red Sea in particular are necessary for the world as a whole and not only for the area. The committee also called on the Red Sea Arab states to form a clear strategy for safeguarding this sensitive area against plots aimed at destabilizing it and at jeopardizing its security. These countries should work sincerely together to rid the area of reasons for tension and unrest, foremost of which is the Middle East crisis and the Gulf war.

Bomb Scare on Saudi Plane From Jidda Reported

NC170945 Cairo MENA in English 0936 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 17 (MENA) — Cairo International Airport today received a cable from a Saudi airliner before its landing therein about a bomb feared to be on the plane. All necessary measures were taken by airport authorities to secure safe landing of the plane with its 320 passengers. Explosives experts rushed in and after minute inspection found nothing. It was ten minutes before landing that a hostess found a message in English in the plane's toilet room alerting of a bomb on the plane. The plane was coming from Jidda.

'Abd al-Majid on African, Nonaligned Meetings

NC161316 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has received positive responses from various African countries concerning Egypt's call for a side meeting of African foreign ministers at the UN headquarters during next month's UN General Assembly session. This is what Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has stated, adding that the conference will discuss ways to settle African differences and arrangements for the 20th OAU summit, which will be held this year. Meanwhile, 'Abd al-Majid said Egypt will take part in the meeting of nonaligned foreign ministers, scheduled to be held in Malta on 10 September. 'Abd al-Majid said that this conference will discuss the security of the Red Sea litteral states and that the UN secretary general will submit a report about the conference's work to the coming UN General Assembly session.

Foreign Minister Denies Fence Moved in Tabah

NC161408 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has stressed that absolutely no new Egyptian land has been usurped, as the newspaper *AL-WAFD* has alleged. In an official statement he read to journalists today in comment on a report published in the newspaper *AL-WAFD* today under the headline "Israel Tries To Usurp New Egyptian Land," Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that no Israeli elements have advanced toward any Egyptian position.

In his official statement, 'Abd al-Majid also declared that the barbed wire separating the disputed area in Tabah is still there and has not been moved at all, and the same thing applies to the location of the temporary Egyptian gate leading to the Tabah area. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the commander of the central

security forces in the area, desirous to avoid any irritation between members of the Egyptian force and the Israeli tourists on the other side of the barbed wire, set up some huts necessary for the work of the force at a distance less than 100 meters from the barbed wire, without this entailing any change in the location of the barbed wire or an Israeli movement in the direction of the disputed area. In other words, the movement of the security forces was within their area for a distance of less of 100 meters and for the reasons explained.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry again affirms its concern for the maintenance of Egypt's sovereignty over the Tabah area and for the adoption of all diplomatic and legal measures to safeguard Egypt's rights in accordance with the peace treaty and the 25 April 1982 agreement, which spell out the legal framework for solving the Tabah problem. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry would have liked the newspaper *AL-WAFD* to have objectively investigated the matter before publishing it in a sensational and inaccurate way.

American Black Muslim Leader Farrakhan Viewed

PM161623 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 2

[Ahmad Rajab article: "Public Threat"]

[Text] I was anxious to ask more than one American about his views regarding what the Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan says. The upper echelons of American society, such as former ambassadors and university professors, see him as a fanatic with madly extremist views. They accuse him of what prophets in the old days and reformers in contemporary times are accused — namely, madness.

Among ordinary Americans there are those who admire him and others who denounce his statements, which are quite the opposite of what they are accustomed to hearing from the media about Middle East problem. As for America's Black Muslims, who aspire to a better life, they consider Louis Farrakhan one of the boldest free voices in America. Therefore views of him range from accusations of mad fanasticism to regarding him as a great reformer. Despite the differences of views about him, everybody recognizes his talents.

When he speaks, he is as effusive as a wide-flowing river. As soon as Farrakhan starts speaking people listen to him; they are dazzled by his profound logic and precise sentences which make their point with such ease.

Louis Farrakhan deeply shocks American society with his views because this society has been thoroughly brainwashed as regards the problem of Israel and the Arab world. The American mind has become biased in favor of Israel, and the dictates of social etiquette no longer allow any criticism of Israel, however slight. Therefore an open attack on Israel in the United States is similar to putting one's head in the lion's mouth. Anyone who dares to criticize Israel in the United States is accused of being anti-Semitic, a reincarnation of Hitler, against the peoples' desire for peace, and against God's chosen people and, consequently, against the peoples and God. This means sentencing to death whoever violates these great and noble values.

During an interview a television presenter asked the American Muslim leader, "Are you not afraid of being killed?" It was as if he was telling him, "Your ideas deserve to be silenced, so why don't you abandon them and save your neck." This question was tantamount to a threat to kill. This threat took place publicly on television in front of millions of viewers. Therefore there is freedom of expression in the United States.

But there is also the freedom to kill if such views are disturbing. Farrakhan is no greater than Kennedy, Martin Luther King, or Malcolm X. They were all killed in mysterious circumstances, the investigation of which led to greater mystery.

Communique 1,559 Notes Iranian Shelling

JN161628 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,559 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the determination of staunch men, the soldiers of great Iraq continue their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the Iranian enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite their positions in the operational sector east of Basra with all types of weapons, killing three, wounding others, and destroying five infantry positions. Some of these positions were set on fire. Our units also destroyed one enemy observation post and one weapons emplacement. In another area in the same sector, a small enemy group tried to approach one of our forward units positions. Our unit pounded the group with all types of weapons, wounding one while the others fled.

2. One of our forward units firecely and effectively shelled enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield and also pounded them with all types of weapons, inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment.

3. One vehicle was hit and one enemy element was killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. Escaping the tyranny and oppression of the regime which is ruling in Iran, new groups of Iranian soldiers sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield and were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. The evil enemy forces shelled the Khurmal suburbs with heavy artillery. As a result of this shelling, two citizens were martyred.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, on 16 August 1984

Ramadan Statement on Jordan, YAR Visits

JN161222 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad last night following visits to Jordan and the YAR.

In a statement to INA, Ramadan said the visits were very successful and fruitful. He added: We have met with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan and Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the YAR, conveying to them President Saddam Husayn's greetings, pride, and appreciation for the noble, fraternal stands of both the Jordanian and the YAR governments and peoples toward Iraq, which has been waging a defensive war for 4 years. We conveyed President Saddam Husayn's desire to develop Iraq's bilateral relations with both Jordan and the YAR.

Ramadan pointed out that King Husayn and Col Salih asked him to convey their greetings to President Saddam Husayn and their support for Iraq, expressing their pride in Iraq's victories over the Iranian aggressors — victories that are a source of pride for all Arabs.

Ramadan said: We informed our Arab brothers about the latest Iraqi-Iranian war developments from the political, military, and economic viewpoints. We stressed the excellent position of our Armed Forces along the entire front and their complete readiness to defeat any adventure that the Iranian forces intend to launch. We affirmed our absolute readiness to continue efforts and to cooperate with any endeavor to end the war and realize peace.

Ramadan praised the results of the visits and said they have realized their aims, pointing out that the talks were characterized by a cordial, fraternal atmosphere and by the positive desire to promote and expand Iraq's cooperation with both Jordan and the YAR in all fields both for the present and the future in the service of our Arab nation.

Ramadan expressed the satisfaction of the Iraqi, Jordanian, and YAR officials with the march of their developing relations and their determination to continue meetings and exert efforts for strengthening and expanding these relations in various fields within the framework of Iraq's bilateral cooperation with Jordan and the YAR.

Ramadan said that the minutes of the Iraqi-Jordanian and the Iraqi-YAR joint committee meetings were signed. The minutes included expanding economic cooperation in the fields of oil, transportation, communications, and agriculture, and increasing the volume of trade exchange.

Ramadan asserted that during the visit, a great step forward was realized in Iraq's relations with these two countries. This will contribute toward strengthening the Arab nation's position in facing the plots being hatched by the Khomeyniite, Zionist, and imperialist enemies.

Ramadan's delegation included Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction; the under secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Communications; and a number of officials from the various ministries.

End of War Speculation Called Iranian Gimmick

JN170712 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Aug (INA) — The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* said here today that the false speculation about the war ending soon will not deceive Iraq or weaken its position. In an editorial today, the paper said it is now clear that the Iranian charlatans and their suspect allies are behind this false speculation. These charlatans and their allies thought that they would deceive those sides that are concerned with the war, give them false reassurance about Iranian intentions, and make them complacent in seeking a just, honorable peace.

AL-JUMHURIYAH also said that the Iranian charlatans and their allies thought that this speculation would help them weaken Iraq's position so that they could pounce on it and swallow it up as a prelude to spreading their hegemony over the entire region. The paper said that these charlatans and their allies thought their bait attractive and tempting and that the parties concerned would swallow it. They were also under the illusion that Iraq's power comes from outside and not from within, the paper further said.

The paper added: Therefore, they exhausted themselves in contacts, stopped the drums of war, and began pretending moderation. They expressed their desire to hold conferences. They now say that they care for Arab solidarity, as though they received a sudden inspiration for righteousness after they had been misled by Satan for a long time.

The paper said: Let the charlatans and their corrupt allies know that their gimmicks have already been exposed and that to continue them is stupid futility. The paper said in conclusion that Iraq will not be deceived and that it is fully prepared for the next round, which will be a new disaster for its enemies.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Congressman Solarz

JN161607 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Stephen Solarz, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and his accompanying delegation.

The two sides reviewed the current situation in the region and bilateral relations. Tariq 'Aziz also briefed the U.S. official on the developments of the war that the Iranian regime has imposed on Iraq.

The meeting was attended by 'Ismat Kittani, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the official in charge of U.S. interests in Baghdad.

Briefs

Cooperation With Morocco — Baghdad, 17 Aug (INA) — Iraq and Morocco signed minutes of the second session of the Iraqi-Moroccan joint ministerial committee here last night. The minutes stressed the importance of strengthening ties of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, commercial, technical, and scientific fields. Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq signed for Iraq and Abdelouahed Radi, official in charge of cooperation at the Prime Ministry, signed for Morocco. [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0912 GMT 17 Aug 84 JN]

Israel's Remarks on Confederation Assailed

JN161335 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Aug 84 p4

[Editorial: "Venemous Message"]

[Text] Citing Israeli intelligence reports, a "senior Israeli official" was quoted yesterday as saying that Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are far from agreement on the future of the West Bank. The official was apparently commenting on reports last week and in the past month by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his political adviser Hani al-Hasan that Jordan and the PLO had agreed on establishing a confederation between the Kingdom and a future Palestinian state.

Since at least two international news agencies carried the official's statement on the same day, one would assume that by saying this Israel was trying to make a point. The official, by requesting anonymity from both news organisations, could not have wanted his message to be less clear.

To go back to thinking about or explaining the intentions of the two PLO leaders, as to why they made their statements at a time when Jordan and the PLO were not that seriously engaged in confederal talks, is like playing music to Israel's ears. It is clear that Israel's sole objective from making yesterday's statement is to stir up trouble for us.

Israeli intelligence services might have known or guessed, correctly we believe, that there has been an active debate within the PLO on 'Arafat's and Al-Hasan's motivations for saying what they did. The Israelis no doubt want this debate to end up creating more troubles for the Palestinians involved, especially now, just a few days before the planned meeting on reconciliation in Algiers of several factions making up the PLO. Further splits and squabbles within the organisation would naturally spill into Syrian and Jordanian camps — and the Arabs end up much farther apart than before on the essential questions facing them. Exactly what Israel wants.

'Arafat and Al-Hasan were not lying or distorting the truth when they said Jordan and the PLO were agreed in principle on, and nearing an agreement to, a confederation between the Kingdom and a liberated West Bank. Granted, not everything might have been agreed upon in many months of talks between Jordan and the PLO, but it is a fact of life that every Arab's top priority is the liberation of the occupied territories. Again, there might be those on the radical and the extremist sides that would contest our priority claim, but theirs is a superficial argument indeed. It would wither away the moment Israel and the United States showed a genuine desire for a genuine peace.

It is upon this very superficial argument, however, that the Israeli ruling circles are capitalising to perpetuate their occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. Israel wants Arabs and Palestinians to continue to fight each other to hold on to supremacy in the area. It wants to deepen our rifts, even about the smallest of things. This is the meaning of the message that Israel sent yesterday.

What does it matter to Shamir, if he won't give up the land, anyway?

Austrian Defense Minister Discusses Visit

JN161126 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Aug 84 p 1

[by Salamah B. Ni'matt]

[Text] Amman — Austrian Defence Minister Friedhelm Frischenschlager Wednesday said that the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories constitute the main obstacle to achieving peace in the Middle East. The Palestinian problem is the main issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr Frischenschlager said, "and the Israeli settlement policy is wrong, and cannot lead to any solution."

The Austrian minister said Austria appreciates Jordan's stand towards various Middle East issues and the Kingdom's peaceful approach to solving the region's problem.

In an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*, the minister, who is curently on a six-day official visit to Jordan, said the Middle East problem can be divided into two parts: the problem of occupied lands and the problem of maintaining stability and security of the countries involved in the conflict.

"The problem is in the structure of governments," Mr Frischenschlager said. "More moderation and compromise from these governments is required" in order to reach a settlement, he added.

Asked about a recently announced Austrian initiative for a Middle East solution, the minister said his country does not have any exact plan, "but we have intensive contacts with other countries in the United Nations through which we can play a role." The minister was referring to Austrian efforts to achieve a rapprochement in views between countries directly involved in the conflict towards efforts for a peaceful solution.

Commenting on a proposal to convene an international Middle East peace conference, the minister said Austria would support the idea, provided all countries involved in the conflict would participate. "it is useless to hold such a conference without the participation of all parties," he said. Israel and the United States have rejected the idea for the conference which was supported by Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and the Soviet Union.

The Austrian defence minister expressed optimism over posibilities of a break in the current stalemate in Middle East peace efforts after the American presidential elections in November.

"There is a strong possibility of a change in the U.S. policy" towards the Middle East and "maybe something will happen in Israel," Mr Frischenschlager said. "We just have to wait and see."

The Austrian minister, who is leading a six-member military delegation on his current visit to Jordan, arrived in Amman on Monday. He was received by His Majesty King Husayn on Tuesday and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir held talks with the visitor on issues of mutual interest.

The minister said the subject of providing Jordan with Austrian arms was not discussed during his talks in Jordan. He said the talks centred on ways to increase the exchange of expertise in the fields of defence and military training. According to the Austrian Constitution, the minister said, Austrian arms sales to any country has to be debated by the Cabinet and approved by the Foreign Ministry, the Defence Ministry and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. He said Jordan did not apply for arms from Austria.

He also stressed Jordan's important role in any solution to the problems in the region and said Austria share identical views with Jordan in international affairs. "The world needs moderate countries like Jordan and Austria" in order to be able to solve current international problems, the minister said.

Mr Frischenschlager is expected to leave Jordan on Sunday.

Israeli Air Raid in Al-Biqa' Reported
JN161642 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut — Israeli warplanes this afternoon raided a Lebanese area near Barr Ilyas in northern Al-Biqa'. An Israeli military spokesman claimed that the raid was directed against a Palestinian base there.

Jordanian-Palestinian Committee To Meet in Amman
JN170927 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Aug 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — The Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee is expected to convene in Amman within the next few days.

A responsible official from the committee stated that it will assess its past activities and form a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to visit Arab countries to discuss the payment of their commitments to the fund for supporting the Palestinian people's steadfastness.

The source added that the committee will give priority to projects aimed at protecting Jerusalem from the dangers of Judaization.

The Jordanian side to these meetings is headed by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and minister of interior. The Palestinian side is headed by Hamid Abu Sittah, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the Occupied Homeland Affairs Department.

Government Sources Comment on Security Plan

NC161251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Government sources have emphasized to the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY that instructions were given to the concerned areas to intensify security measures, to control the security situation in Beirut, and to put an end to the problems that arise every now and then and affect the progress of the security plan. The sources pointed out that the new measures will involve increasing the Army's and security forces' effectiveness in maintaining security, especially at the crossing points in Beirut, in order to prevent any security setbacks or practices that will jeopardize the success of the security experiment.

The government sources believe the security plan for the mountain — for which preparations are being made through contacts and military arrangements — aims, just as the Beirut plan does, to realize the salvation process and to establish the just legitimate authority that is capable of imposing the authority of law.

The sources said that as long as everyone agrees on the national unity government, as long as the decision to save the country has been made, and as long as everyone agrees to achieve this aim, there is no cause for anxiety with regard to the details and whether the plan begins with the opening of entire roads or only parts of them. The important thing is to establish security in the mountain during the period set for salvation. There is no need to enter into useless details that benefit no one.

The government sources said there are indications on the local, regional, and international levels that affirm that everyone supports and blesses the salvation process in Lebanon and works to employ everything to serve the country's interests. The decision has been made and there is no going back on it.

The government sources reassured those who are concerned about the future of the country, from both a political and a security standpoint, that things are proceeding on a sound course. The sources added, however, that the legacies of 10 years of fighting and suffering cannot be wiped out in a matter of days or weeks. All efforts are directed at turning the page of the past, and there is no cause for despair or anxiety.

Regarding the situation in the south, the government sources said the state's stand on the south is clear: The state is acting on the basis of complete liberation. Whoever is striving toward this objective does not differentiate between one step or another to achieve it. How can we speak about liberating the south and not close the Ad-Dubayyah office, for example? Or, how can we open the Al-Awwali road, and not think of the measures Israel is taking, which smack of biting off and digesting [pieces of Lebanon]?

The government sources affirmed that the state is preparing factual and field studies so that it will have all the evidence, so that it if it becomes necessary to resort to the Security Council, the state will have the necessary weapons to defend the country's sovereignty and every inch of its territory.

The sources called on the loyal people to join hands and achieve the goal of liberation and impose the country's higher interests. Useful methods do not involve excesses but realistic and scientific principles and the confrontation of challenges with all the dictates of the homeland's interests.

In the course of expressing their satisfaction with the situation in the country, the government sources believed that what is now taking place on the political level confirms that democracy is still sound and has reasserted itself because all political views are open to discussion and every party is putting forward its views. The conflict of views is, in the final analysis, better than a conflict of positions. We take it as a good omen that the people, who were fighting with weapons, are now holding dialogues and talking to each other. This is everyone's wish because through the battles of words, one can detect those who have faith in their country, its fate, and its legitimacy, and those who are still searching for personal positions — those whose self-confidence is too weak to be able to determine their positions. The unity of the country is one of the basic objectives for which the government is working. It is therefore not permissible to fabricate problems that only serve the enemy who is trying to sustain the disputes so that he can exploit and benefit from them.

Pierre al-Jumayyil Calls for Agreement With Syria

NC161112 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil today called for self-reliance in dealing with the Lebanese issues. He maintained that it is in theinterest of Syria for Lebanon to revert to normal life. He affirmed that the interest of the two countries lies in the existence of genuine agreement between them.

Regarding the issue of negotiations with Israel, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil explained that Lebanon, for the sake of liberating its land, is compelled to elect one of two options: either force or negotiations. However, since force is unavailable, the only option is negotiations — direct or indirect.

The Phalange Party leader denounced the kidnapping of the head of the Jewish community in Lebanon. He said Lebanon is the only country in the world in which every citizen, irrespective of his religious affiliation, feels that he lives in his own country. However, if this characteristic disappears, there will be no more Lebanon.

Birri Details Israeli Practices in South

NC161615 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] In his latest statement, Minister Nabih Birri said that he continued his contacts today with the Foreign Ministry and western ambassadors on what has been and is taking place in the area of Tyre, particularly in Bidyas, Ma'rakah, Burj Rahhal, and Al-'Abbasiyah.

Birri said that Israel declared that the Amal movement is responsible for the operations being systematically launched against its forces in the south. Israel has also started a population survey for the purpose of evacuating the members and leaders of the movement. Therefore, Birri said: I would like to clarify the following:

The Amal movement represents the steadfast population of the south. Every man, woman, and child there is a member of the Amal movement.

Israel invaded the south in 1982 under the pretext of providing peace for Galilee. In 1978 it did the same with the same pretext. These excuses cannot be maintained on any grounds. They are completely untenable now that no gunmen live in the south any more. Under what pretext, then, is Israel remaining in the south?

Furthermore, why have the Israeli forces seized a strip of public and private property near the Al-Wazzani spring covering an area of 700 donums — the equivalent of 7 million square meters. They have erected iron posts along 800 meters there, and are putting in more of these posts. Why have they built a road at the boundary of this strip?

Birri said that this information was confirmed by public property officials, by security sources, and by members of the movement who were acting on his orders. He added: I received their reports today. Why have UN officials been prevented from surveying this area?

Birri said: Why is the number of detainees in the Ansar camp doubling every month? Their number reached 794 on 9 August. The International Red Cross is prevented from visiting any detainee until 1 month after his detention. This is to give time for the signs of torture to disappear. The Red Cross is allowed to visit any detainee only once a week. It is prevented from inspecting the interrogation centers in An-Nabatiyah, Tyre, and Mar Ilyas. There are more than 100 detainees there.

Birri said that Israel is presently preparing to divert the Al-Litani waters — a matter which can be deduced from the digging around the Al-Qir'awn Lake in western Al-Biqa'. Israel is also on its way to stopping civilian traffic, even on the Batir-Jazzin road, in preparation for severing the only remaining channel of communication between the south and north of Lebanon.

Birri added: The Lebanese Government is measuring its moves toward the south and its population with a timid diplomatic approach controlled by the calculations of the five major powers. Nevertheless, the southerners and the Amal movement have always confronted the acts of the occupying forces and warned about what is happening now before it even happened.

Birri said: The continuation of what is happening now — severing the south and evacuating its population — makes me stress again that we will react. We will increase resistance operations. There will be three such operations every single day.

UN Prevented From Reaching Spring

NC161722 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A UN spokesman in southern Lebanon has said that the Israeli forces prevented UN observers from reaching the Al-Wazzani spring.

Meanwhile, a spokesman at the Israeli Foreign Ministry today said that a frence has been constructed around the Al-Wazzani spring in order to carry out some repairs [as heard] and that this fence will be removed after the repairs are made.

Birri To Discuss Complaint to UN With Cabinet

NC170609 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Sources close to Minister Nabih Birri expect the Cabinet to discuss at its forthcoming meeting the serious situation in the south in light of the escalating arbitrary Israeli operations against civilians. It is also expected to ascertain that Israel is biting off some territory near Al-Wazzani and stealing Al-Litani River waters.

The sources said that at the Cabinet meeting, Minister Birri will insist on discussing the question of submitting an official complaint to the UN Security Council against the Israeli practices, particularly its stealing the Al-Wazzani River waters and its slicing off of territory. It would also protest against what the Israeli forces have done in Ma'rakah and other southern villages.

Ministerial sources expressed their belief that the Cabinet will draw up a plan for security measures for the south if the military committee has completed its report in this connection. The sources disclosed that the government's plan in this regard is based on the success of the security plan in the mountain and the opening of the coastal road up to Al-Awwali, since the Lebanese Army's arrival at the gate to the south will embarrass Israel and the United States. The sources said the Lebanese authorities have been able to establish security in most of the territory under their control. There is therefore no justification for Israel to continue its occupation of the south.

Sham'un Comments on Economy, Truce, Israeli Election

NC171000 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 13-19 Aug pp 28-30

[Interview with former President Camille Sham'un by Donna Abu an-Nasr — date and place not given]

[Text] [An-Nasr] How can the state treasury's deficit, which runs into billions of pounds, be slashed?

[Sham'un] The state budget consists of two components: expenditure and income. In the past, the government always tried to balance these two components. The income usually exceeded the expenditure, which enabled the state to accumulate treasury reserves. By the end of 1958, these reserves amounted to hundreds of millions of pounds. This situation has changed, however,

since the long Lebanese war broke out. On one hand, the income has declined, and on the other, expenditures increased. The present treasury deficit, which amounts to over 20 billion pounds, can tackled only by the adoption of "classical" means, namely, by limiting expenditure and increasing revenue.

[An-Nasr] How do you view the position of the Lebanese pound, and how is it possible to maintain its strength, with the industrial, commercial, and even agricultural sectors at a virtual standstill and the slump in demand for Lebanese products?

[Sham'un] In spite of what I said about the deficit, the Lebanese pound is nevertheless still strong, especially in comparison with other foreign currencies, with the exception of the American dollar. The strength of the Lebanese currency however should not prompt us to be conceited or negligent. Even through it is strong, it is on the brink of an abyss and it is our duty to safeguard it and to resume our activities in the different economic sectors: commercial, banking, industrial, and agricultural. This can only be achieved when peace and security prevail.

[An-Nasr] Is there any fear over the future situation of the banks?

[Sham'un] There is no fear for the banks, unless they take undue financial risks with their depositors' money, or unless the Central Bank fails to discharge one of its prime duties, namely the accurate supervision (of banks). This unfortunately happened once, and brought (the system) into some disrepute.

[An-Nasr] The housing crisis is so acute that it has become an obstacle to the raising of families, because many people are remaining unmarried due to their inability to find accommodation. What is the solution?

[Sham'un] You have the full right to raise this question, because the housing crisis has reached such an unprecedented level that there is a danger that it might evolve into a social crisis. It is true that there is a housing ministry and other institutions which are responsible for working out solutions to the housing problem that is plaguing a considerable portion of the Lebanon people. However, there are other institutions, which seem to exist in order to obstruct solutions, or at least, not to facilitate them. Should you ask to which institutions I am referring, I'd immediately mention the Council for Development and Reconstruction, which needlessly speeds up some matters and obstructs others for no reason.

[An-Nasr] What is the latest on the Christian-Druze committee, the formation of which you announced?

[Sham'un] It will be ready to operate as soon as the implementation of the security plan in the mountains is launched.

[An-Nasr] People say that the present truce will last for days or weeks or a few months. What is your opinion?

[Sham'un] If the talk is of a truce lasting days, weeks or months, it means that the truce could last until it evolves into final peace, which is what every reasonable person desires.

[An-Nasr] The Israeli elections are now over. Will the approach to regional problems change should the ruling group in Israel be changed? What repercussions would this have on Lebanon?

[Sham'un] Prior to the Israeli elections it was widely believed that the Labor Party, which is less extremist than the Likud, would win and that its return to power would herald an era of peace with the Palestinians, the Arab countries, and Lebanon. The results of the elections, however, were disappointing, and neither of the two parties won a clear victory, which would have entitled the winner to form a cabinet. Consequently, we will now have to wait for the formation of the new government to be able to tell what the future course of Israel will be.

[An-Nasr] What is your concept of the future of Lebanon and the region? Are there any new plans for the area that will be applied soon?

[Sham'un] I hope that peace, security and prosperity will prevail in the Lebanon of tomorrow. I also hope that the countries of the region will cooperate constructively, in line with their unlimited capabilities.

[An-Nasr] What about the Gulf war? Could it have any repercussions on Lebanon?

[Sham'un] The only person who could answer this question is Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. He holds the keys to both war and peace. So far, he does not seem to be inclined towards peace despite the huge human and material losses incurred by Iran.

[An-Nasr] How do you evaluate Lebanese-Syrian relations at present, and do you have any plans to visit Damascus?

[Sham'un] Lebanon and Syria are now passing through a stage of understanding and cooperation, which I hope will become a permanent state. By the same token, I hope that Lebanon will regain its full freedom and sovereignty within the context of a durable peace. Once this right is attained, and brotherly relations prevail between the two countries, I will be ready to visit Syria at any moment and on every occasion.

Iranian Charge Returns to Beirut 16 Aug

NC161146 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mahmud Nurani arrived in Beirut at noon today to resume his duties following the restoration of relations between Lebanon and Iran.

Tehran TV on Return

GF171116 Tehran Television Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Thousands of Lebanese Muslims received the Iranian charge d'affaires in Beirut [on his arrival in Lebanon] on 16 August. They were carrying pictures of the Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution. Following the arrival in Beirut of the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Lebanon, he participated in the ceremony that was held in a mosque on the Beirut airport road and that was attended by Islamic figures and the masses that were longing to see the Iranian charge d'affaires.

Socialists, Al-Murabitun Clash in Beirut

NC151917 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] A report said a short while ago that a clash is now taking place on Verdun Street in the Al-Hamra' area [in western Beirut] between Progressive Socialist Party gunmen and Al-Murabitun followers. The outcome of the clash, which is still continuing, is not yet clear.

Clashes Reported in Palestinian Camps 17 Aug

NC170905 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Tension prevails in Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila [Palestinian refugee camps] in the southern suburbs. This follows clashes between 'Arafat's Palestinians and Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] dissident gunmen that occurred this morning and were resumed at 1000.

Shi'ite gunmen surrounded the camps and arrested some Palestinian gunmen, but gunfire can be heard every now and then.

Syrians, Hezbollah Gunmen Clash in Al-Biqa'

NC161151 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] According to reports from the Al-Biqa', the Syrian forces are surrounding the Hawr Ta'la area, in the Ba'labakk district, following clashes last night between Syrian troops and Hezbollah gunmen. The clashes lasted until early this morning. Medium- and heavy-caliber weapons, mortars, and RPG's were used in these clashes.

Syrians, Israelis Exchange Fire in Al-Biqa'

NC170723 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Syrian and Israeli Forces exchanged heavy artillery fire from 0215 until 0245 today in the areas of 'Amiq and Al-Mansurah in the western Al-Biqa'. There is no additional information yet.

Israeli Planes Carry Out Raid in Al-Biqa'

VOM: Planes Forced To Return

NC161508 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1500 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] This afternoon Israeli planes carried out an air raid on a military position called Al-Istabl south of Barr Ilyas. The raiding planes, which met ground fire, were forced to return in the direction of occupied Arab territory.

VOL: 4 Killed

NC161642 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Israeli planes this afternoon bombed a stronghold of the PFLP-GC — the organization led by Ahmad Jibril — on the Al-'Ibri farm in Ar-Rawdah near the Damascus highway only a few kilometers away from Shtawrah.

Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' said that a squadron of five planes circled over the stronghold and that two planes carried out the bombing in two dives. The raid lasted 4 minutes and left the stronghold partially destroyed and some of its personnel killed and wounded. The number of casualties has not been ascertained yet. However, a Palestinian source said that four people were killed.

Following the raid, the area was encircled by Syrian and Palestinian forces.

RFL on Palestinian Clashes, Israeli Air Raid

NC170542 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Tension continues to prevail between the Palestinian gunmen of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] in the Al-Biqa' areas, which they control, following the clashes that took place last night.

Security sources say the Israeli Air Force raid on a Palestinian dissident base in the Al-Biqa' killed 6 persons and wounded 17 others. A spokesman for the pro-Syrian organization Al-'Asifah said the raid on Barr Ilyas failed. He stressed that no military person or civilian was hit, and that the raid's target was the Abu Musa headquarters.

Israelis Put Conditions on South Entry, Exit

NC170828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] A military source reported a short time ago that the Israeli forces this morning put up a poster at Batir checkpoint on behalf of the Israeli liaison unit in Lebanon, setting conditions for entry to and exist from the south:

1. As of Sunday, 19 August 1984, all types of cars are banned from the Batir-Jazzin Road. The road will be confined to pedestrians only.

2. Small cars with permits will be allowed to enter the south as of 19 August until 29 August 1984 by the Malihah-Jazzin Road.

3. Small cars leaving the south will be permitted to use the Malihah Road without return.

4. As of 14 August 1984, pickup trucks are banned from entering or leaving the south. All vehicles will be unloaded at the 'Ayn Majdalun checkpoint.

Communist Action Organization To Start Radio
NC170846 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 13-19 Aug 84 p 18

[Text] Sources close to the Communist Action Organization (CAO) say that Muhsin Ibrahim, the organization's secretary general, is busy preparing the launch of the CAO's radio station, which is expected to begin broadcasting in a medium wavelength shortly.

VOL Says Al-Asad Will Pardon Political Prisoners
NC161723 Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will shortly issue a pardon of some political prisoners, including former President Nur al-Atasi, who is suffering health problems.

Israeli Warplanes in Al-Biqa' Reported

JN161842 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut — The Israeli enemy's warplanes this afternoon strafed areas of Lebanon's Al-Biqa'. The Phalangist radio, which broadcast this report, said that surface-to-air missiles were fired against the enemy planes. A spokesman for the enemy's army admitted this aggressive raid and claimed that it was directed against a fedayeen base there.

Al-Asad Receives Algerian Ambassador, Message

JN161522 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1400 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Salih Boujoumaa, Algerian ambassador to Syria. The Algerian ambassador conveyed a message to President al-Asad from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. President al-Asad asked the ambassador to convey a reply message to Algerian President Bendjedid.

Message Related to PLO

JN161805 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Salih Boujoumaa, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus, today delivered a message to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. Informed diplomatic sources in Damascus say that the message deals with the dispute between Damascus and the PLO command, and is within the framework of the efforts Algeria has been exerting to settle this dispute. The sources added that President al-Asad's reply to this message is not encouraging.

TISHRIN Decries Shultz, Arens' Remarks on Lebanon

JN170923 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column under the headline "Syria Will Remain an Obstacle Before Imperialist-Zionist Plots and Will Offer All Possible Support for Lebanon To Save It From Its Troubles," *TISHRIN* says: The Shultz-Arens duo has again started harping on the theme of warnings and threats. While Shultz regards Syria as an obstacle to peace in the region, Arens made it clear that the Zionist state is very concerned with Lebanese developments. Shultz blames Syria for foiling the 17 May agreement, which he himself planned and brought into being. This action threw into confusion the U.S. plans for the Arab region, blocked the Reagan plan, and prompted many Arab states to reconsider their stands on U.S. policy.

Shultz begrudges Syria its success because the United States failed. Syria succeeded in pushing the Lebanese people toward constructive, fruitful national dialogue, which resulted in a national unity government and large-scale security measures which created optimism and confidence, reunified Beirut, and formed a basis for spreading order over Lebanese territory. Syria succeeded because it was sincere in its efforts, caring for all the Lebanese people. The United States failed because it planned to transform Lebanon into an exclusive Israeli protectorate and a hotbed of unceasing internal trouble — trouble that could only result in fragmenting and dismembering Lebanese territory.

Thus, when Shultz assails Syria, he assails Syria's credibility, truthfulness, and sincerity. To have won the approval of the U.S. secretary of state, Syria should have stood idly by, watching the implementation of the grand plot against Lebanon and the region. It should have let the U.S. fleets and invasion forces play havoc in Lebanon and implement their divisive schemes. Shultz would have given his blessings to Syria had it remained silent toward the 17 May agreement of capitulation and had it not confronted it by uniting with the Lebanese forces of good against evil.

In the opinion of the U.S. secretary of state, Syria is an obstacle to peace. When Shultz talks about peace, he means complete submission to Israel and its schemes — submission like that of Egypt's As-Sadat.

TISHRIN adds: Shultz' statements were immediately echoed in Israel. Arens announced that the invasion forces will not withdraw from southern Lebanon, that there is no plan to this effect, and that Lebanon is very close to Israel and Israel is concerned with whatever happens in Lebanon. In other words, Arens considers the success of the Lebanese reconciliation plans, the restoration of peace in Beirut, and the return of security in other parts of Lebanon to be a threat to Israel's expansionist plans and its historical ambitions to the south.

Arens, as well as Shultz, is chagrined because of Syria's success in foiling the internal troubles and in placing the Lebanese before their historic responsibilities. This is no surprise because the United States and Israel signed a strategic alliance. Their policies in the region are one and the same. What is more, the United States, the superpower, views with contempt all international norms and conventions by implementing Israeli polices.

TISHRIN says in conclusion: Thus, Shultz' statements and their immediate echo in the Zionist entity should be viewed from this angle. The United States is concerned over Lebanon to the extent that Israeli policy is involved. This applies to any other Arab country as well. The United States will not change its policy of dismembering the Arab nation, inflaming inter-Arab differences, employing these differences in the interest of Zionist expansion and realizing complete surrender.

Syria will always remain an obstacle in the eyes of the United States because it will continue to practice its pan-Arab policy and prove to the Arabs that it is possible to defeat hostile plots and realize victory if they mobilize their resources and resolve to fight aggression. Syria will remain an insurmountable obstacle, and Shultz and his successors will continue to pour their invective on our steadfast country and its honorable pan-Arab stands.

AL-BA'TH: West Attempts To Impose Camp David

JN170856 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 17 Aug (SANA) — *AL-BA'TH* asserts that the large-scale Western military moves in the Arab seas are a prelude to action which the West believes is necessary to impose the Camp David accords. In its editorial today under the headline "The Egyptian Regime and the Timing of the Conspiracy," *AL-BA'TH* adds that this action will put the U.S.-Israeli alliance to a test, because the United States has no credibility in the region except when Israel is concerned.

The Egyptian regime, which ran the game of air raid on Khartoum and which is running the game in the Red Sea and in the Gulf war, pledged to be for the United States what the United States is for Israel. The Egyptian regime, which is asking the Arabs to choose either Camp David or military confrontation, would not be able to declare its stand, disclose its deception, and announce that the U.S. elections are the sign after which the Arabs must either accept the Camp David accords or confront the Camp David parties if it did not guarantee the positioning of the Multinational Forces at the Arab homeland's entrances and on the Arab seas.

AL-BA'TH says: The call by the Egyptian regime's president for a Jordanian-Palestinian deal which will be Jordan's entry into Camp David contains the threat of moves witnessed by Baghdad, Amman, and Cairo. The tripartite alliance has become the base of the U.S. regional security alliance in the region, and the Western forces will safeguard that alliance. Israel's role has not yet started. As the president of the apostasy regime in Egypt admitted, the timing of Israel's role is linked to the U.S. elections.

AL-BA'TH concludes: All parties to the conspiracy believe that the game is over and that its results are guaranteed. But the conspirators have forgotten that the results are doomed to failure. The Arab national weight will in the end define the decision-maker in Arab territory, and Syria represents this weight. The Arab choice is not Camp David but to confront its parties.

Briefs

Outgoing Ambassadors — Damascus, 16 Aug (SANA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received here today Vladimir Ukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus; and Ashok Kumar Ray, Indian ambassador in Damascus at the end of their term of office. [Text] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 16 Aug 84 JN]

Alignment, Likud Report Progress in Talks

TA170942 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0925 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The talks between the Alignment and Likud economic teams ended in Tel Aviv a short while ago. Both sides believe that real progress has been made toward forming a national unity government. It was decided in today's meeting that a joint document will be put together next week, which will specify basic guidelines for a national unity government, as well as economic principles and ways to implement them.

Another meeting will probably be held this Monday on economic issues. This is reported by our economic correspondent Moshe Gal.

Kohen-Orgad, Ya'aqobi Comment

TA171127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Alignment and Likud economic teams have agreed to formulate a document with basic economic guidelines for a national unity government, as well as economic policy principles. Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said there is a general desire to form a national unity government, and, in his opinion, an agreement can be reached. Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi, the head of the Alignment's economic team, said that the country's future socioeconomic path was discussed today. In his opinion as well, there is a good chance to reach an agreement despite the differences of opinion.

Peres Aide Rejects Rotating Premiership

TA170618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Yosi Beilin, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres' aide, said that despite the disagreements developing in the talks between the Alignment and Likud political teams, there is a good chance that Peres will form the next government. Dr Beilin said this to our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. He characterized the idea of a rotating premiership as futile, and said this cannot and will not be implemented. Beilin also pointed out that there is no legal means to implement a rotating premiership.

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Base in Al-Biqa'

TA161408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] This afternoon Air Force planes attacked a terrorist base near the hamlet of Barr Ilyas in the northern Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon. All our planes returned safely. The base was a regional command headquarters used for launching attacks. Our correspondent reports that the command headquarters that was attacked was located near the abandoned Al-Istabl airfield about 5 km south of Barr Ilyas. It served the members of Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa] group, opponents of 'Arafat. There were two buildings on the base. As stated, all our planes returned safely.

Arens Discusses Raid

TA161736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Alan Ben-'Ami — "this afternoon," place not given — passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpt] [Alan Ben-'Ami, live in studio] This afternoon I asked Defense Minister Moshe Arens if today's air strike was connected in any way to the car bomb attempt.

[Arens] "No, no, it's part and parcel of our continuous fight against terrorism everywhere, including Lebanon. As long as there is terrorist activity in Lebanon directed against Israel and against the IDF, the terrorists will have to take into consideration the possibility that any time they can be hit by us."

[Ben-'Ami] "Speaking earlier, at the National Defense College, you said that the war in Lebanon, the current situation in Lebanon, is complicated, costly, and debilitating, to a certain extent. What exactly did you mean? Are you saying that Israel can't stand the price, the pace now?"

[Arens] "No, no, nothing of the sort. We certainly can stand the price. I would say it's...[changes thought] it takes a prolonged effort on our part, and therefore it requires stamina, because the fight against terror is a continuous battle. Wars that we've fought have lasted 6 days or 16 days, but the fight against terror goes on, day to day."

[Ben-'Ami] "What about the price? As you know, there's a public debate now about the price, about the casualty rate, which appears to be going up. Attacks appear to be increasing on Israeli troops in Lebnaon."

[Arens] "Well, first of all, I don't confirm what you've just said, but I think that what we all have to realize is that we have no alternative. When we are attacked by terrorists, there is no way of disengaging, or simply getting away from these attacks. We have to protect the security of the citizens who live in the northern part of the country, and they are under attack. The people who take the brunt of that attack today are the soldiers and the IDF, and not the civilians in the Galilee, and that's the way it should be."

[Ben-'Ami] "Do you think that public opinion is going to support the government that continues with the problems it faces; keeping the troops in Lebanon; seeing casualties day in and day out?"

[Arens] "I think that the Israeli public understands very well the security dangers that face it, and therefore the Israeli public is ready to make allocations to defense that no other people are ready to make. The Israeli public had a chance to voice its opinion just 3 weeks ago in the Israeli elections, and you may have noticed that not only did the Likud have a great deal of support in the elections, but that also the Labor Party, in the election campaign, did not make an issue of our presence in southern Lebanon and based on their understanding as well, that this is a battle that must be fought and a battle that must be won." [end recording]

Arabic Broadcast Notes Attack

JN161511 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] IDF planes this afternoon raided a terrorist base in Barr Ilyas in northern Al-Biqa'. All our planes returned safely to base. An IDF spokesman said that this base was used as a regional command headquarters for the terrorists and a base for launching terrorist attacks against IDF forces. Our correspondent adds that the command headquarters that was attacked was located near the abandoned airfield Al-Istabl south of Barr Ilyas. It was used by followers of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the dissidents who oppose Yasir 'Arafat.

Arens Raps Media for Distorting Lebanon Coverage

TA170607 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Aug 84 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Defence Minister Moshe Arens yesterday charged that the communications media are providing what he termed "distorted" reports on developments in South Lebanon, which he said was making it more difficult to wage the campaign there.

Addressing the 31 officers and civilians who were graduated from the National Defence College near Tel Aviv, Arens implied that he may bar Israeli journalists from Lebanon unless their reports satisfy him. But the defence minister did not go so far as to make the threat explicit.

"Our television brings the war into our living rooms practically every day. If the reports are accurate, objective, I would say there is no reason not to bring them into the living room. But if the reports are distorted, if they do not reflect the truth or the whole truth — this makes the campaign that much more difficult," he stated.

Arens noted that following the U.S. experience with the news media in Vietnam, the British had barred the press during the invasion of the Falkland Islands, and the U.S. did the same when it invaded the Caribbean island of Grenada.

"We are not barring our news media from getting to the front, to the campaign, to the soldiers and the officers. But we are reminding the media," the defence minister said, "that incorrect reports, distorted reports, make the campaign difficult."

Ne'eman Scores NRP-Labor Settlement Agreement

TA170542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Tehiya Minister Yuval Ne'eman has charged that the National Religious Party [NRP] stuck a knife in the back of Jewish settlers, by agreeing to restrictions on settlement during yesterday's talks with the Labor Party. Ne'eman said the move will hurt the NRP in the next elections.

The Labor-NRP working paper calls for continued settlement in security zones and agreed-upon locations, with settlements in controversial areas only to be established after government approval.

Paper Blasts Eytan's Views on Arabs, Politics

TA170722 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Aug 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Yahad leader 'Ezer Weizman refuses to contemplate entering a national unity coalition which includes the five-man Tehiya party.

It is one of the ironies of political life that politicians often do more to build up their adversaries than the adversaries themselves. Weizman bears a share of the blame for making Tehiya what it is today, because he appointed Refa'el Eytan to the critical post of chief of staff in January 1978, while he was defence minister in the first Begin cabinet.

For his first tentative overture, Eytan played the let's-not-wash-any-dirty-linen-in-public theme. Only two months after his appointment, he appealed to the Israeli press not to publish reports about the Army which could give comfort to the Arab states.

This elicited the prompt rebuke from Prof Re'uven Yaron, then head of the Broadcasting Authority and a Likud appointee usually described as one of the last few Jabotinsky Revisionists, that Eytan's appeal was "extremely dangerous." Yaron said that Israel's society would pay the price if the criterion for publishing a news item was what the Arabs might think of it.

Eytan had been less than four months in office when he used his position as a vehicle to propound his political ideas about the future of the West Bank. In an Independence Day interview on Israel TV, he took a position to the right of the Begin government with regard to settlement and negotiations with the Arabs. He said Israelis should "stop being naive" about their country's security needs, the intentions of the Arabs, including Egypt, and the outcome of the War of Independence.

The Arabs were using political negotiations as "another means" of obliterating Israel, the chief of staff told viewers (and perhaps the government as well).

The Likud MK [Knesset Member] who later became defence minister, Moshe Arens, gave Eytan total constitutional support, saying it was the duty of a chief of staff "to define the conditions under which he feels the IDF can defend the state."

Because of the row sparked by his TV interview and the private rebukes which Eytan drew from Begin and Weizman (who defended him publicly), the chief of staff did not draw headlines with political comment for some time. However, in a more practical sphere, he "acted without authority when he offered a deal to a Gush Emunim squatters group" according to the Defence Ministry spokesman in September 1978. Weizman overruled him.

After the row caused by this incident, *POST* military correspondent Hirsh Goodman wrote on October 5, 1978: "Being chief of staff is more than just managing an army. It is having your hands on a tremendous source of power which could cause incalculable harm if abused.

"Despite the preponderance of generals in Israeli politics," Goodman wrote, "there has never been the slightest hint of military intervention in politics."

Eytan's third major public controversy followed the rows about the political future of the West Bank, and policy towards unauthorized Gush Emunim squatters. It concerned his reduction of the sentence passed by a military court on an IDF reservist for murdering a Jerusalem Arab from 10 years to three, after the original 20 years had been reduced to 10 by an appeals court. On April 23, 1979, *THE JERUSALEM POST* described the chief of staff's intervention as "official tacit acquiescence in a heinous random act because of the tension under which we all live."

Two months later, Eytan got involved in a similar controversy when he reduced a military court sentence for manslaughter committed by an IDF officer in Lebanon from eight years to two, again after the appeals court had already reduced it from 12 years to eight. According to the *POST*, Eytan had the military censor repeatedly ban publication of the remission on grounds of "national security."

Eytan's statements in the 1984 election campaign about full civil rights for Israeli Arabs only if they performed national service are not new. In July 1979, referring to all citizens, and not just Arabs, Eytan told 10 members of the Knesset Education Committee that "anyone who refuses to volunteer for the Army should not be considered part of the state."

Eytan was asked that same month by the High Court to submit an affidavit, on security grounds, for the sequestration of private Arab land near Nabulus, at Elon More. The seizure was essential for Israel's security, he argued. Three months later, when the High Court ruled that Elon More was illegal, it also ruled that the settlement was set up for political and not security reasons. But it stressed its great respect for the chief of staff's professional opinions.

One of the more illuminating remarks by Eytan came in June the next year, after the car bomb attacks on three West Bank Arab mayors. He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that there was "nothing significantly new" in the attempted assassinations. The same week he told Israel TV that "Arab violence had increased and become intolerable, thus inciting Jewish response."

The controversial and divisive comments which marked Eytan's first two years as chief of staff were repeated in different forms many times during his remaining three years as the country's most influential educator and guide on security affairs. They reached their distasteful climax in April last year, when he compared Arabs who were demonstrating and throwing stones as a result of the intensified Jewish settlement in the areas "to drugged cockroaches running about hither and thither in a bottle."

There have been coarse and offensive MK's in the Knesset in the past and, after the initial shock, it has learned to live with them. But these MK's did not have the extra advantage of being authoritative experts in their fields. This is what enabled Eytan to get away with as much as he did.

When Knesset crystal-ball gazers talk of the polarization and turbulence which the two new parties, the Progressive List for Peace and KAKH are threatening to bring to this country's parliamentary scene, perhaps they forget that Tehiya's Eytan can create more pandemonium than both the new parties combined.

The ex-chief of staff probably does not hope to keep the House agitated and torn by strife. Nor, probably does he understand why this is inevitable.

Ship Delayed in Suez Canal for Fear of Mines

TA170624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Excerpt] An Israeli container ship, the *Zim Singapore*, en route from the Mediterranean to Elat, was instructed to wait at the southern end of the Suez Canal for fear of mines. At the beginning of the week *Zim Singapore* joined a convoy of ships sailing through the northern end of the Suez Canal, but it was instructed by radio to drop anchor and delay its voyage to Elat for the time being.

Egyptian Consul Cool to Tourist Bus at Tabah

TA170625 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Aug 84 p 2

[Mikhal Yudelman report]

[Text] Tabah — An Egyptian minibus carrying 15 Italian tourists yesterday became the first such tourist vehicle to enter Israel via the Tabah border checkpost.

Egyptian Consul in Elat Hasan 'Isa said yesterday he did not understand how a private travel agency's minibus was allowed through, since the agreement between Israel and Egypt prohibits the passage of such Egyptian and Israel buses via the border checkposts. 'Isa said the agreement applies to minibuses as well.

A Tabah border-control official told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the Egyptian vehicle was driven by an Egyptian driver hired by a group of elderly Italians. The tourists will tour Israel for about a week and then return to Egypt, the official said.

'Isa said that the prohibition on travel-agency buses using the border checkpoints was made with the agreement of travel agents from both countries. The only buses allowed to travel between the two countries are those of Egged and East Delta, which make a daily trip on the Cairo-Tel Aviv line.

Some Egyptian tourists do come to Israel via Tabah, 'Isa said, but most of the people passing through are Israeli, and the rest are mostly of other nationalities.

Charge Discovered, Defused in Jerusalem

TA150846 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0717 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] A short while ago an explosive charge found in a suspicious car was defused without causing damage. The car was discovered in the proximity of the promenade in the center of Jerusalem. Our correspondents Shlomo Raz and Shim'on Schiffer report that due to the discovery of the charge, big traffic jams have formed in the center of Jerusalem. Our correspondents report that in some places the streets were closed for a long time, and the traffic in the center of Jerusalem is experiencing difficulties.

Druze Clergy Decide Not To Boycott Knesset Voters

TA170758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0733 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] There has been a development in the Golan Heights boycott: At the last minute, Druze clergymen refrained from imposinga boycott on 107 Druze who voted in the Knesset elections. This is reported by our correspondent Yo'el Dar. He reports that these clergymen gathered yesterday but did not raise the boycott issue at all. In the village of Majdal Shams, however, it was announced that the boycott imposed on those holding Israeli citizenship still stands. Our correspondent reports that this development stems from warnings issued to the Druze by government representatives and police officers.

West Bank Villages Connected to Electricity Grid

TA170753 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Aug 84

["Defense Ministry Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 16 Aug (ITIM) — The momentum to develop the electricity grid in Judaea and Samaria has continued, according to the Civilian Administration's 1983-84 budget.

1. The main roads in Samaria have been connected: Tulkarm-Dayr Sharaf-Sanur; Qalqilyah-Dayr Sharaf; Kfar Qasim-Tappuah-Shilo.

2. This year a line was laid between Bet She'an and Janin in order to connect Janin to the electricity grid. The work is nearly finished and the workers are now laying a high tension grid in the town itself.

3. In order to permit reliable electricity distribution to the Hebron region a substation is being built, which will increase the region's electricity output.

4. Last year the following villages were connected to the electricity grid: ('Asasa) in the Janin region; An-Nabi Ilyas and Jarushiyah in the Tulkarm region; Bayt Immar, Yatma, Qaryut, and An-Naqurah in the Nabulus region.

Yattah and Dura in the Hebron region are in the process of being linked in the framework of the southern Hebron Hills electricity project.

5. In the current fiscal year the Civilian Administration intends to link 12 more villages to the electricity grid.

Water Supply to West Bank Villages Improved

TA170831 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 16 Aug 84

[Text] A Defense Ministry spokesman announced that a water pipeline is currently being laid from the Bayt Fajjar drilling site to Mezad, in order to improve the water supply situation in the southern Hebron Plateau area. The pipeline project is a joint effort by the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration and the settlement authorities.

Another project planned for this year, which will also increase the water supply in the area, is the installation of electricity at Herodion. These steps, together with the drilling activity at "Ziv-1," will significantly improve the water supply situation in the southern Hebron Plateau.

During fiscal year 1983/4, the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration initiated and supervised the laying of water pipelines to the villages of (Dayr Qaddum), Kharbata, and Ra's Karkar, in the Ramallah district, while Dayr al-Hatab, 'Azmut, 'Udalah, Sulam, As-Sawiyah, and Rujayb (in the Nabulus district), and (Jilkamus), Talpit, (umm Tut), Tannin, and Al-Mughayyir (in the Janin District) were connected to water mains.

Work on the water connections to the villages of Biddiya, Sartah, and Haris (in the Tulkarm District) is nearing completion.

Envoys to Latin America Cautioned on Trade Ties

TA170650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 T 17 Aug 84

[Text] Israeli ambassadors to Latin American countries have been asked to be very cautious about strengthening commercial relations with the countries in which they serve. A directive on this matter was given to the ambassadors in a meeting devoted to economic affairs.

Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that it was issued in the wake of the financial difficulties of these countries. Another reason is the realization that other countries in similar circumstances, such as Nigeria, are having difficulties repaying their debts.

Ministry Conceals Fall in Foreign Currency Stocks

TA170612 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Aug 84 p 1

[Avi Temkin report]

[Excerpt] A bookkeeping maneuver helped the Finance Ministry to cover up part of last month's drop in foreign-cirrency reserves, which may have actually totalled at least $676 million. According to the official statistics released two weeks ago, the reserves plunged by some $351 million last month.

The bookkeeping maneuver accounts for the $325m. [million] difference between the two figures. But U.S. officials told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday that the actual drop in reserves may have totalled more than $700m., and that other moves were also used to cover the real losses.

Bank of Israel officials said the $676m. figure should be regarded as "hypothetical," since the Treasury and the bank would have used other means of raising foreign currency if no such maneuver had been available. In the past the Treasury has raised short-term loans abroad every time it wanted to conceal a large drop in reserves.

The officials added that one reason for the relatively large fall in reserves was the repayment of maturing long-term loans taken from the U.S. During the last two months large repayments of loans granted to Israel in 1974 were made. But the officials added that the drop was also caused by the public's heavy demand for dollars and election eve expectations of a pending devaluation.

ALGERIA

Messaadia Receives Polisario Front Delegation

LD171000 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia member of the FLN Political Bureau and in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, yesterday received a delegation of Polisario Front led by the permanent secretary of the Political Bureau, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, and including the SDAR prime minister, Mahfoud Ali Larus Beiba and the spokesman for the front's foreign relations Salem Ould Salek. Brother Messaadia reviewed with the Saharan delegation the latest developments in the African Continent, particularly those in the Arab Maghreb region. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia asserted on this occasion the principled and firm stance of the FLN Party with the causes of liberation in the African Continent and particularly the struggle of the Saharan people led by the Polisario Front.

LIBYA

KUNA: Al-Qadhdhafi Planning Unity Summit

LD161856 Kuwait KUNA in English 1638 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, Aug 16 (KUNA) — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is planning to host a Northwest African summit in a bid to join his recently-concluded unity agreement with Morocco with the cooperation pact already existing between Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania, diplomatic sources said here Thursday. The sources said Al-Qadhdhafi had suggested the meeting to the leaders of Algeria and Tunisia last Tuesday on his way home from signing the unity accord with King Hassan in the eastern Moroccan town of Oujda.

The summit was proposed for Tripoli at the beginning of September, to coincide with the fifteenth anniversary of the coup which brought Al-Qadhdhafi to power in 1969. The Libyan leader hopes to use the occasion to urge regional states to begin a process of regional unification by bringing together the Oujda agreement with the Algerian-Tunisian-Mauritanian fraternity and cooperation pact.

Although there has been no official mention of the summit plan, Al-Qadhdhafi was apparently disappointed that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid declined to attend the Oujda gathering. Algeria and Mauritania are opposed to Moroccan policy over the Western Sahara and back the territory's independence movement Polisario, with Libya taking a neutral stance on the issue and Al-Qadhdhafi attempting to act as a mediator. Algeria has officially ignored the Oujda accord and reiterated its commitment to the tripartite pact, holding top-level negotiations on the issue with the Tunisian leadership after Al-Qadhdhafi's stopovers in the two countries. The Libyan news agency at the time said however that the two countries had welcomed the proposed Libyan-Moroccan union.

Morocco, for its part, has criticized the Algerian attitude and enthusiastically presented the Oujda summit as a historic step towards unity in the region, which is sharply divided over the Western Sahara question. But the sources in Paris said Al-Qadhdhafi was still trying to persuade Bendjedid and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to meet in Tripoli with the Libyan and Moroccan leaders on September 1.

U.S. Reaction to Unity Agreement Dismissed

LD161523 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Aug (JANA) — Hostile imperialist circles have expressed utter discomfort as a result of the declaration of the treaty regarding the establishment of a union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco. As usual, the American Government hastened to express feelings of enmity towards this unionist achievement. Last night John Hughes, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, said that this treaty was not expected in Washington. In an official statement the American spokesman expressed the American Government's feeling of disapproval at the treaty, which establishes union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco. He also said that the Reagan administration is concerned as a result of this step.

The U.S. official statements have come to record a hostile attitude, which is not new for a state that was and still is planning and conspiring against the Arab nation and works to frustrate this nation's aspirations by any means.

The U.S. official statements represent an unlimited brazen attitude and constitute rude insolence and flagrant interference in the internal affairs of two independent countries that have acted out of their own free will in response to their own peoples' ambitions and aspirations and the Arab nation's aspirations to unity from the ocean to the Gulf — which is feared by the U.S. Government and its ally in occupied Palestine. Through such condemned statements the United States wants to impose its guardianship on the peoples of the two countries and the entire Arab nation. It brazenly wants to impose this guardianship on the Jamahiriyah and on Morocco to the extent of [telling them] how they should shape their own future. Having acted in a manner inspired by our will, which stems from the aspirations and hopes of our nation, we do not accept guardianship of America, which is our nation's bitter enemy. We consider the statements by the official John Hughes, official spokesman of the U.S. State Department, to be insolence and direct interference in our affairs. We do not expect America to be anything other than, as usual, a hostile state shocked by the loud noise of unity and [word indistinct] the Arab voice, which stems from the conscience calling for Arab unity.

OPEC Ministerial Delegation Leaves Tripoli

LD161546 Tripoli JANA in English 1400 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 19, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — OPEC ministerial delegation including Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, United Arab Emirates minister of petroleum and ministeral resources, Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries and Dr Orlando Castejon, Venezuelan minister of environment and natural resources, left Tripoli last night ending a visit to the Socialist

People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The delegation's visit to the Jamahiriyah was part of a tour to OPEC countries.

Reportage of Al-Kharrubi Visit to Yugoslovia

For Yugoslav and Libyan coverage of the visit to Yugoslavia of chief of the General Staff, Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, including his talks with Veselin Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and his counterpart, Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, see the Yugoslavia section of the 14 August Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Jallud Opens Revolutionary Committees Meeting

LD161604 Tripoli JANA in English 1407 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Banghazi, Dhulqidah 19, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud opened last night the first meeting of the seventh session of the Revolutionary Committees at Qar Yunis University in the City Al-Bayan al-Awwal (Banghazi).

MOROCCO

Hassan Dispatches Envoys to Promote Unity Agreement

LD162232 Kuwait KUNA in English 1350 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 16 (KUNA) — Full details of the recently-concluded Libyan-Moroccan unity accord will be unveiled early next month after Moroccan King Hassan despatches envoys to a number of Arab and African countries to promote the agreement and its regional ramifications, officials here said. The Moroccan monarch will send representatives to 7 African and Gulf states over the next few days to explain Monday's surprise signing of the accord with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in the Moroccan town of Oujda, the officials said. Diplomats here see the king's main aim in promoting the accord as a regional one, as the Oujda unity agreement creates a Libyan-Moroccan axis to counter the existing regional pact between Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania.

Algeria and Tunisia both have border problems with Libya, while Morocco is at loggerheads with Algeria and Mauritania over the question of the Western Sahara and its independence movement Polisario. Morocco's semi-official press Thursday rebuked Algeria for its lukewarm response to the Oujda agreement.

"What does Algeria want for the future of the area?" headlined the mainstream Istiqlal Party's organ *AL-'ALAM*, which went on to describe Oujda as a search for an Arab solution to the Sahara question, in which Libya is neutral and Algeria and Mauritania are staunchly pro-Polisario.

'Sources' Deny Union Directed Against Anybody

PM161519 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Talhah Jibril report: "Moroccan Sources: 'Union Between Morocco and Libya Not Against Anybody; Moroccan Envoys To Explain "Oujda" Agreement'"]

[Excerpt] Rabat — Official Moroccan sources said in Rabat that the union [ittihad] proclaimed between Morocco and Libya is not directed against anybody and does not constitute an axis in the area. In a statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* the sources said that Algeria and Tunisia have been invited to join the "Oujda" agreement.

Ahmed Reda Guedira, the Moroccan monarch's adviser, who visited Algiers and Tunis accompanying Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, said that other countries of the Arab Maghreb have been invited to join the treaty. He said that the treaty is open for accession by all the other countries and that Syria has been invited to accede to it as a first step toward other Arab countries acceding.

The sources said that the Moroccan monarch will send emissaries to a number of Arab countries to explain the objectives of Oujda agreement and to acquaint leaders of these countries with the aims of the union announced between Morocco and Libya the day before yesterday.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Moroccan Crown Prince Amir Mohamed is likely to attend Libya's celebration of the anniversary of 1 September revolution when it is expected that during the celebrations further details of the Oujda agreement will come into effect only after a referendum of the Moroccan and Libyan peoples.

Moroccan press reports said yesterday that under the agreement both countries will maintain their full sovereignty while King Hassan II and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will rotate in presiding over the union every 2 years. Each of the two countries will appoint a minister to the other country to express the views of the country he represents in all the fields. Joint working meetings will be held by governments of both countries.

SUDAN

Taxation Department Reports Revenues Up

JN161740 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Aug (SUNA) — Revenues accruing from taxes starting July 1983 and ending June 1984 have totalled 273 million pounds, a statistics report released by the Taxation Department said here today. It indicated the revenues were up by 23 million pounds when it was originally targeted at 500 million pounds.

The overall increase was 56 million pounds compared to the 1982/83 actual revenues. These taxes were collected from busi-

ness profits, personal income, expatriates tax, stamp duty estates, sales, development and capital profits.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Welcomes Visiting UAE President

LD161841 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] We begin this bulletin by contacting our special correspondent in Monastir who will tell us about the visit of the UAE president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and his arrival in Tunisia: As a way of stressing the relations of fraternity, cooperation and firm friendship which link the peoples of Tunisia and the UAE and the leaders of the two countries, the president of the UAE, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan arrived at Monastir-Sqans Airport on an official visit to Tunisia at the invitation of his brother President Habib Bourguiba. The great guest was welcomed at the airport by the prime minister and minister of interior, Mohamed Mzali who accorded him a lengthy welcome and wished him a good stay in his second country, Tunisia.

Bourguiba Hosts Banquet

LD162157 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpts] President Habib Bourguiba and his wife received the president of the UAE His highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan at 1900 this evening at the Presidential Palace in Sqans. The meeting was attended by the Prime Minister and Interior Minister Mohamed Mzali, members of the government and the two countries' ambassadors.

President Habib Bourguiba and his wife this evening at the Presidential Palace in Sqans gave a banquet in honor of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in the presence of the prime minister and minister of interior, Mohamed Mzali. The banquet was attended by the delegation accompanying the great guest, members of the government, the Arab League secretary general, Chedli Klibi, the Kuwaiti ambassador in Tunis and doyen of the diplomatic corps in Tunisia, Ahmad al-Hamad and the two countries ambassadors.

Essebsi Meets Visiting Iranian Majlis Official

LD161403 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] This morning at the Foreign Ministry Beji Caid Essebsi, the foreign minister, discussed the situation in the Gulf region and the Iran-Iraq war with Ahmad Azizi, chairman of the Iranian Majlis Foreign Relations Committee. The chairman of the Iranian Majlis Foreign Relations Committee is in Tunis to participate in the UN-sponsored seminar on the Palestinian issue.

WESTERN SAHARA

Peru Becomes 57th Country To Recognize SDAR

LD170747 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Peruvian Government yesterday recognized the SDAR. Peru is the 14th state in Latin America to recognize the SDAR from among 57 states which have also recognized the SDAR.

ETHIOPIA

Foreign Minister on 'Inhuman Acts' in Sudan

EA162057 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Goshu Wolde has said that the statement concerning Ethiopia made to the press by the Sundanese foreign minister on his return recently from a visit to some reactionary Arab countries was not only untrue and baseless but was also an attempt to conceal the discontent, and particularly the massacre being perpetrated in southern Sudan.

In a statement issued today, Comrade Goshu Wolde, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member, said that revolutionary Ethiopia had respected and continues to respect Sudan's territorial integrity under the principle of good neighborliness. He said 10 years ago revolutionary Ethiopia had made great efforts to solve the problem in southern Sudan and for one country and one government to be established in Sudan.

Comrade Goshu pointed out that the current movement in southern Sudan was for peace, equality, justice, and prosperity and not to separate the southern part from Sudan. He said that President Numayri's government was using all its manpower and force to foil this struggle. He said that while President Numayri's government was currently unable to solve the problem in the country, especially in southern Sudan, it was continuously making deceitful and baseless allegations under the guise that the problem was plotted and directed by Ethiopia.

Comrade Goshu Wolde said that meanwhile, President Numayri's government had long been interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs, and continued to do so, by rallying reactionary Arab countries, especially by giving material and cash aid to secessionist bandits and by playing host to seccessionist leaders.

He pointed out that the people of Sudan and Ethiopia were peace-loving peoples and wanted positive understanding to be respected. They were a people who shared similar feelings and attitudes, but President Numayri's government was currently disturbing the peoples of the two countries.

Comrade Goshu pointed out that at present thousands of the country's citizens who were fed up with the massacre being carried out on the southern Sudanese people were seeking refuge in Ethiopia and other neighboring countries. He added that, in particular, inhuman acts such as cutting off hands and feet, blinding, extracting teeth, and such being carried out on the southern Sudanese were deplorable. He stressed that the Western world should not just watch this situation but should strongly condemn it.

Comrade Goshu added that even though Ethiopia had made efforts, even at the ambassadorial level, to improve relations between Sudan and Ethiopia, Sudan has never refrained from propagating ridiculous and baseless allegations against Ethiopia, and as a result the efforts to find a peaceful solution to the problem had not been successful. He also added that even though our revolutionary leader, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, had made great efforts to improve relations, all the efforts had remained fruitless because of the destructive activities against the principle of peaceful coexistance and good neighborliness carried out by President Numayri's government.

Comrade Goshu pointed out that the unprecedented massacre being carried out by the Sudanese Government on the country's people in the belief that it was solving the enormous problems facing it was (?serious) and dangerous to its existence.

TANZANIA

DPRK Vice President Asks for More Cooperation

EA161619 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Zanzibar: The DPRK vice president, Ndugu Pak Songchol, has called for the exploration of further areas of cooperation in a bid to strengthen relations between Tanzania and his country. He said on arrival in Zanzibar that although his country assists Tanzania in irrigation projects, there was a need to cooperate in other technical areas.

Speaking at the Chama Cha Mapinduzi office in Kisiwa Ndui after being briefed on party activities in developing the national economy and the lives of the people of Tanzania, Ndugu Pak said that Tanzania was rich in natural resources which had not been fully exploited. He said marine resources on the Tanzanian coast could be exploited with his country's technical expertise. The DPRK vice president, who is also a member of the Political Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, stressed his party's determination to build a socialist state.

SFRY Delegation Pledges Support for African Liberation

EA162028 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam: Yugoslavia has reaffirmed its support for liberation movements in Africa through moral, political, and material assistance. Briefing newsmen in Dar es Salaam today, the leader of the visiting Yugoslav Communist Party delegation, Ndugu Nenad Bucin, said Yugoslavia was very much concerned over the slowness of the implementation of the UN resolution on Namibia's independence. He said in order to speed up the achievement of Namibian independence his country will co-operate with the OAU Liberation Committee in its diplomatic initiative to bring about change in Namibia and South Africa.

Early last month, the OAU Liberation Committee visited a number of European countries, including Yugoslavia, to seek assistance for liberation movements in southern Africa.

CHAD

Habre Dismisses Morocco-Libya Merger Bid

AB161055 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Libya is well known to all Chadians. They know that it is our common enemy. Its leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who is known all over the world for his queer and shameful gestures, has not stopped carrying out his expansionist policy. After several merger agreements which eventually ended in failure, of course, Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya has signed another such agreement with Morocco. Before leaving Yaounde for Ndjamena, President Hissein Habre answered questions put to him by one of our colleagues from Radio Cameroon on the activities of the Libyan leader on this topic.

[Begin Habre recording] There have been several agreements of this kind which have been concluded in the past by Libya with a number of countries, including Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia, and Syria. One has the impression that Col al-Qadhdhafi has caught a merger-agreement disease. Honestly — I think I need not hide this — it seems to me that this is a fools' agreement; a fools' agreement in which each side undoubtedly seeks to cheat and where each side wants to achieve its objectives by neutralizing the other. But what is unfortunate in all this is that all this is being done on the back of others. One thing is certain, and it is that this agreement is not going to last. [end recording]

ZAIRE

Joint Commission With Zambia Meets in Kinshasa

AB162144 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1725 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 16 Aug (AZAP) — Citizen Umba Di Lutete, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, and Professor L.K.H. Goma, Zambia's minister of foreign affairs, jointly presided over the opening ceremony of the sixth ordinary session of the Zaire-Zambia Joint Commission. The ceremony took place on Thursday at the Mobutu Hall of the Foreign Ministry.

In his opening address, Umba Di Lutete pointed out that this session of the Joint Commission is taking place in Kinshasa 6 weeks after the meeting between our two heads of state in Lusaka on 24 and 25 June this year. He said the meeting is an extension of the Lusaka talks aimed at bringing our peoples closer under the wise leadership of Presidents David Kenneth Kaunda and Marshal Mobutu.

Vatican, Israeli Envoys Pay Farewell Visit

AB161102 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1607 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 15 Aug (AZAP) — Citizen Umba Di Lutete, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, on Wednesday received in audience Msgr Joseph Uhac, the apostolic nuncio, and Mr Mikha'el Mikha'eli, the ambassador of Israel to Zaire. The two diplomats came to bid farewell to the foreign minister at the end of their respective missions.

Msgr Uhac did not make any statement to the press at the end of his call, but it is believed that his talks with the Zairian foreign minister centered on relations between the Holy See and the Republic of Zaire. For his part, Mr Mikha'el Mikha'eli said he thanked the state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation for the sincere collaboration that has existed between the Israeli Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs and then expressed his pleasure at having accomplished his 2-year diplomatic mission to Zaire to the satisfaction of the authorities of the two countries.

Mr Mikha'eli hoped that his successor, who is due to arrive in Zaire in October, will be able to work under the same conditions as he has, for, he said, before the resumption of diplomatic relations between the Jewish and Zairian nations, the Jewish people were not familiar with the true Zaire they have discovered today thanks to the policy of dialogue pursued by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko. Zaire is a unified and stable nation in which the people speak one language, Mr Mikha'el Mikha'eli further said, expressing admiration for the unity, peace, and political stability installed in Zaire by the man of 24 November 1965.

Zaire and Israel are currently trying to diversify their bilateral cooperation in the field of agriculture, the Jewish diplomat added, and he emphasized that Zaire is a strong nation in terms of both its wealth and the geopolitical position it occupies in central Africa.

BURKINA

Radio Director Comments on GUNT Meeting Significance

AB150810 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Commentary by Radio Burkina Director Ouataoua Namien]

[Text] The just ended meeting of the patriotic Chadian forces in Ouagadougou is a political development which Burkina hopes will positively affect the search for a lasting — if not definitive — solution to the Chadian problem. For almost 20 years now, the Chadian people, who have been suffering and longing for freedom and peace, have been misled in their struggle by a multitude of leaders who cannot unite, not even in the supreme interest of these Chadian people.

The existence of a great number of factions in that country after Tombalbaye's [first Chadian president] downfall has only compounded the country's problems. This shows Chad as a very difficult puzzle to solve.

In agreeing to host the meeting of some factions of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], Burkina wanted nothing but to contribute adequately toward the unification of patriotic Chadian forces, since only Chadians can find a solution to their problems through the achievement of unity. Burkina did not thereby want to take sides for or against anyone claiming to be on the side of the Chadian people. In view of the outcome of the Ouagadougou deliberations, the overly sensitive ones in Ndjamena who deemed it necessary to attack Burkina for agreeing to host the meeting have been compelled to agree that they must from now on work toward the goals which motivated the leaders of the Rally of the Chadian Patriotic Forces [RFP].

In agreeing to receive these Chadian patriots, Burkina has no intention whatsoever of condoning attacks against countries with which it maintains excellent relations, like Libya. The communique issued by the RFP was abundantly clear on this point. Burkina has only one motivation, that is, to contribute to the settlement of the Chadian problem. If the Ouagadougou conference later turns out to have been a useful move, the Burkinabe people will only feel proud about it.

GUINEA

Sierra Leone Delegation Meets With President

AB161758 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpts] A high-ranking Sierra Leonean Government delegation led by Foreign Minister Abdulai Conteh was received in audience early yesterday afternoon by His Excellency Colonel Lansana Conte, head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN]. The delegation, which carried a personal message from Sierra Leonean President Siaka Stevens to President Lansana Conte, was received in the presence of Colonel Diara Traore, member of the CMRN, prime minister, and head of the government; Captain Facine Toure, member of the CMRN and minister of foreign affairs; Captain Mohamed Traore, member of the CMRN and minister of information amd tourism; Justice Minister Major Kolipe Lama; the Guinean ambassador to Sierra Leone, Sekou Konate; Lieutenant Abdourahmane Diallo, member of the CMRN and chief of state protocol; and Ahmed Bangoura, chief of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In his address to the Guinean head of state, Dr Abdulai Conteh expressed happiness at having been appointed to deliver his head of state's personal message to his brother, President Lansana Conte, and rejoiced about the warm reception accorded his delegation. After narrating the history of Sierra Leonean-Guinean relations — which he said are traditional relations of sincere friendship and brotherhood — Dr Abdulai Conteh said that the Sierra Leonean authorities have been following with great interest the change that occured in Guinea on 3 April 1984. In this connection, he said, President Siaka Stevens has asked me to assure the new Guinean authorities of the desire of the Sierra Leonean Government and people to promote the bonds of friendship and the relations of cooperation between both countries. Apart from the Mano River Union, he stressed, the Sierra Leonean Government is prepared to intensify its cooperation with the Guinean Government in all fields.

In his reply to Dr Conteh, the head of state — on behalf of the Guinean Government — welcomed the Sierra Leonean delegation and wished the members a happy stay in Guinea. We thank you very sincerely for the steps you have taken to help the new Guinean Government to realize its program of national redress, declared President Lansana Conte. We are convinced that understanding, friendship, and brotherhood will always characterize the relations we are compelled to maintain, he added. The head of state called on the Sierra Leonean delegation to assure President Siaka Stevens and the Sierra Leonean Government and people of the Guinean Government's determination to give a concrete content to the relations of cooperation existing between our two countries.

IVORY COAST

Country To End Contracts of Many Foreign Experts

AB171005 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 17 Aug 84 p 28

[Text] A Cabinet meeting was held yesterday from 1000 to 1200 presided over by the head of state, His Excellency President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. Continuing with the analysis of the effects of the world economic crisis and the slump in business on the Ivorian economy, the president of the Republic underscored at the Cabinet meeting the need to consider our modest resources and to review all of our spending.

In this spirit, he recounted the extent of the financial burden being borne by the Ivory Coast both in the public and parastatal (state companies, national public establishments, joint companies etc...) sectors in the payment of experts recruited individually or through agreements signed with some companies.

In this connection, the head of state expressed his satisfaction with the work accomplished by these experts and with the prominent role they have played in the task of nation building and of training Ivorians at their side who have been able to benefit from their advice and experience to the point that they now can replace them.

Consequently a decision has been reached, in accordance with the agreements signed with those concerned, to terminate the contracts of a large number of these experts effective 31 December 1984; those to be retained are only those recommended by the ministers concerned as possessing technical skills and experience that cannot immediately be replaced by Ivorian nationals.

Ministry of Economy and Finance

At the proposal of Minister Abdoulaye Kone, the head of the above department, the president of the Republic signed two decrees concerning the transfer of the shares owned by the state and the Stabilization Fund in the capital of the Trituraf Company.

The next Cabinet meeting will be held this morning at 1000.

LIBERIA

INA Fails To Meet for Second Day Running

AB161720 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Interim National Assembly [INA] yesterday failed to meet for the second day running at the capital in Monrovia. The Interim Assembly officials declined to comment on the failure of yesterday's formal session. But the *DAILY OBSERVER* quoted an INA official who preferred not to be named as saying that the failure of yesterday's session to convene as planned came about because INA Speaker General Podier was indisposed. When contacted later by the *DAILY OBSERVER*, the minister of presidential affairs, J.B. Blamo, said he has been officially informed that Speaker Podier was ill.

The speaker, who is the highest ranking official of the Assembly currently in the country, was to have presided over the first INA session. The assembly meeting was originally scheduled for 11 o'clock on Monday at the Capitol Building and was rescheduled for 10 o'clock on Tuesday, that was yesterday [as heard], because of another meeting between Speaker Podier and government ministers, including the ministers of state for presidential affairs, justice, national security, and defense.

Minister Urges U.S. Government To Cancel Debts

AB170835 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The United States Government has been called upon to cancel all outstanding debts the Liberia Government owes the United States by a top Liberian Government minister. The minister said this will be a demonstration of the goodwill toward the Second Republic and the traditional relationship between the United States and Liberia. The minister, Information Minister Alhaji Kromah, made the request yesterday morning when the U.S. ambassador to Liberia, William Swing, called on him at the ministry.

He asked the American Government to limit the number of strings attached to financial assistance given Liberia. Minister Kromah expressed the hope that Ambassador Swing will explore possibilities in relaxing U.S. aid regulations so that most of what is given as loans and grants can remain in Liberia in other forms. The information boss commended Ambassador Swing for his performance and described him as one of the most active American ambassadors ever accredited to Liberia.

For his part, Ambassador Swing said his government is aware of the concern raised by Minister Kromah. He promised to explore all possibilities of stronger cooperation as Liberia enters the Second Republic, adding that a large portion of U.S. aid comes in the form of grants. He then assured Minister Kromah of his embassy's cooperation as the Information Ministry carries out its national functions.

NIGERIA

Buhari Calls on Soldiers To Help Revamp Economy

AB161230 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Members of the Nigerian Armed Forces have been told to identify themselves with the Federal Government's efforts to revamp the economy. Head of state Major General Muhammadu Buhari gave the order while addressing soldiers in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. Gen Buhari reminded the soldiers that as members of the Armed Forces, the public expects much from them. He expressed the hope that they will live up to expectations by conducting themselves in a manner befitting the military.

Before leaving the Rivers State capital yesterday, Gen Buhari visited the (Tonte) Cooperative Fish Farm at Dodo and inspected the Niger Basin Development Authority farm, also at Dodo. Briefing the head of state, the general manager of the Niger Basin Development Authority, B.J. Samuel (Horsefall), said that as the result of the fact that two-thirds of the local area of the Rivers State was covered by water and swamps, the area offered great potential for fisheries development.

The head of state, who was on a 3-day visit to the Rivers State, has since returned to Lagos.

Conference Calls for Urgent Action Against RSA

AB161815 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] An international seminar in Lagos has called for maximum support for the United Nations Council for Namibia in its attempt to protect the natural resources of Namibia. The seminar on the legal status of the apartheid regime in South Africa and other legal aspects of the struggle against apartheid, made that call in a communique at the end of its deliberations in Lagos

today. It noted that the time had come when urgent priority should be given to the provision of maximum political, material, and other support to SWAPO in its struggle against racist South Africa. The seminar called on the Security Council to take immediate steps to implement Resolution 435 and impose mandatory economic sanctions on South Africa in the face of its intransigence over the Namibian independence issue.

The communique said it recognized that recent developments in southern Africa made it imperative for the international community to understand the urgent need for action through the application of international law to a situation which constituted one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. On the bantustan issue, the seminar noted that the scheme has been imposed by the racist regime against the will of the majority of the people.

The seminar brought together jurists and social scientists from a number of countries in Africa, Europe, North America, and Asia, representives of the principal legal systems of the world.

Lagos Comments on Namibian Independence
AB161140 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Commentary by Ishola Dada]

[Text] Not long ago, fresh talks were held in the Cape Verde Islands between the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, and representatives of the apartheid South African Government on the independence of Namibia. Like a similar one held earlier in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, the talks were bogged down by South Africa's insistence on the irrelevant issue of Cuban troops withdrawing from Angola. But SWAPO, as expected, rejected this spurious demand and called for immediate cessation of fire in Namibia as the prelude to independence as contained in the United Nations resolution on the issue. Elsewhere, it maintained that the United States is the main power behind the racist government in South Africa. It is, therefore, this assured support from the American Government that has emboldened Pretoria to defy the United Nations. For instance, it was the American State Department which prompted the latest talks between the two sides. This shows the enormity of American influence in southern Africa, particularly on the racist government. The point being made here is that the key to the implementation of the United Nations resolution on the Namibian independence issue lies in getting the United States to drop the idea of linking the independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola — an idea first mooted by the United States and later adopted by the racists. And lest the American Government forget, the racist South African Government is holding on to Namibia in defiance of the United Nations resolution.

On the other hand, Angola is a sovereign state and therefore reserves the right to decide when the Cubans should leave, having invited them in the first place. By that token, therefore, no other country has the right to decide this issue for Angola. Besides, the condition which necessitated the invitation of the Cuban troops to Luanda is still very much present in that country. Furthermore, early this year, the racists signed peace accords with Mozambique and Angola. The import of the accord between Angola and South Africa in particular is that the racists should pull out their troops from the Angolan territory and also cease their support for the rebel UNITA bandits while Angola, on her own part, is to deny the use of her territory to the SWAPO liberation forces fighting for their just and legitimate right for Namibia's independence. Five months after the peace accord was signed, South African troops, contrary to the racist claim, are still occupying Angolan territory, and at the same time, UNITA — emboldened by the increased overt and covert support it is getting from the CIA and its Israeli counterpart — has intensified its banditry in Angola.

As was postulated before, South Africa's disposition to talk to the SWAPO across the table is not dictated by any sudden desire to be flexible. Such feigned flexibility is indeed, we believe, designed as a diversionary tactic to soften hostile world opinion while trying to gain time for consolidating more strategy to ensure hegemony in southern Africa. The recent tour of the racist prime minister, Mr Pieter Botha, to some West European countries is part of the whole scheme to stem the complete isolation of the Pretoria clique. One [word indistinct] of that tour would have been a visit to the racist enclave by the most respected Catholic pontiff. But thanks to prompt responses by all anti-apartheid movements, that visit was sensibly shelved. But knowing the racists were not considering any defeat, a signal is at the moment coming out of Pretoria of a possible visit by Mr Botha to Ivory Coast and some other African countries. [sentence as heard] Although neither Ivory Coast nor South Africa has denied or confirmed the report, the visit — if it ever comes through — will be the greatest disservice to the cause of the liberation movement in Africa. But we hope this does not happen. The proposition of such a visit in itself is a potent pointer and a signal that certain forces are at work to break the solidarity of the OAU, the Frontline States, the liberation movements, and all those who stand for the elimination of apartheid and unconditional independence for Namibia. We sincerely hope that we shall not unwittingly allow the imperialist scheme to set back the clock of progress toward independence for Namibia and achievement of a just and humane society in South Africa. The consequence of such a proposition will be too great to contemplate.

BOTSWANA

Nigerian Delegation Delivers Message, Leaves

MB160514 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] A 3-man Nigerian mission that has been in the country for 3 days left Botswana today after delivering a special message to President Masire.

The delegation was led by a Supreme Military Council member, Air Commodore (Koinani). They delivered a special message to President Masire from the Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari.

A spokesman of the office of the president said the delegation did not engage in any other official business because its leader was admitted to Princess Marina Hospital, when he took ill soon after they arrived in Gaborone on Monday.

President Discusses Election, Zambia Ties

MB161616 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The president, Dr Quett Masire, yesterday addressed meetings at Kasane and Katikau, where he urged people to vote for people who they think are dedicated to the development of Botswana. Dr Masire, who is on a nationwide tour which began last month, also said that once a person has been elected to parliament he no longer represents his constituency alone, but represents the whole country.

He told the people of the two villages that since the mandate given his government had elapsed, it was only right for him to go to the people and tell them about the development his government had undertaken during the time it was in power. He said it was now for the people to decide whether to re-elect his party or to elect another party. Dr Masire further said that even though he did not visit the Chobe District frequently, he knew the problems of the residents there through the district commissioner and extension workers. He said he was unable to visit the area frequently because of his numerous official commitments.

The president also said that the people of Kasane will with effect from next year have electricity supplied from Zambia. He said this was agreed upon by the joint Botswana-Zambia commission. He said that the Chobe District had been found to have rich soil for agriculture and he urged the people to start crop farming at a high level.

Commenting on border incidents, Dr Masire warned the people that it was illegal to cross the border without a passport, and said that whenever they wanted to visit their relatives either in Zambia or Zimbabwe they should consult the immigration officials.

Responding to allegations from some members of the audience that the Chobe River has been dammed in the Caprivi Strip, President Masire said that the matter would be investigated, adding that before an international river could be dammed there have to be consultations with all countries which might be affected by such action.

Elections Supervisor Rejects BNF Complaints

MB160532 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The supervisor of elections, Mr (Festus Mukhanye), has rejected allegations that the elections office handicapped the nomination of a presidential candidate by the Botswana National Front, [BNF] last Saturday.

Mr (Mukhanye) said today that it was astonishing to the elections office to learn from the Radio Botswana news bulletin read on 11 August this year that the BNF could not present a presidential nominee because a form, which he says was not named, reached the party's elections committee very late from the elections office and could not be presented to the high court in Lobatse last Saturday. According to the supervisor of elections, the BNF president, Dr Kenneth Koma, accompanied by his party colleague, Mr (Lingile Tsikoma), came to the elections office on the 13th of this month after he had been asked to explain his allegations.

In his explanation, Dr Koma is said to have showed the elections officer the back of the nomination paper for a presidential candidate as the form he had not signed.

Mr (Lingile Tsikoma), who said he was in Lobatse on nomination day, also explained that the mistake they found was that only the front side of the nomination paper was filled in by the proposer and the seconder of Dr Koma and that Dr Koma himself had not filled in and signed the back of the same paper as required.

Mr (Mukhanye) said that all documents for the nomination of presidential candidates were taken by the BNF leader himself as far back as 24 July this year, and 2 and 1/2 weeks before the nomination day, 11 August.

LESOTHO

Commentary Discusses Note to RSA on Security

MB160805 Maseru Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Station commentry: "Security Agreements"]

[Text] Yesterday [as heard] the king's government sent a diplomatic note to the Government of South Africa outlining its response to South Africa's proposals on security pacts between Lesotho and South Africa.

It is necessary to put this whole question in some perspective.

Two years ago the Government of South Africa signed a security agreement with the Government of Swaziland. Recently, President Samora Machel and Prime Minister P.W. Botha put their signatures on behalf of their respective governments on the

Nkomati Accord. The initiatives of South Africa on a security pact with Lesotho are part of this process of entering into legal instruments with neighboring states on security.

Lesotho's attitude, as stated in the diplomatic note, is that the positions of Lesotho and South Africa are still too far apart to permit the signing of an agreement, but Lesotho is ready, as it has been willing in the past, to continue negotiations with South Africa on this issue for the benefit and mutual welfare of the peoples of the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of South Africa, and other states.

Lesotho and South Africa already have security arrangements for the protection of the interests of both countries. There are regular contacts and consultations between the security forces of the two countries. There have been exchanges between the security authorities of both countries which are long-standing. These arrangements have proved satisfactory in the past, and they are solid bases for the protection of the security interests of the Government of Lesotho and the Government of South Africa.

The arrangements are an expression of certain basic principles. For Lesotho, they mean an undertaking to respect the territorial integrity of South Africa. They represent an unambiguous obligation not to allow Lesotho to be used by any state, organization, or person for any purpose whatsoever which might prejudice the safety, sovereignty, or territorial integrity and independence of South Africa.

These principles are not only a gesture of preparedness to maintain neighborly relations. They are not limited to the narrow self-interest of the Kingdom of Lesotho. They do not reflect a narrow definition of Lesotho's national interests. They are essentially a commitment to peaceful relations among states. They are a translation of Lesotho's undertaking under international law to international convention. This is what the Basotho National Party, under the leadership of the prime minister the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, stands for.

Lesotho in principle has no difficulty in signing security treaties, but security treaties for any nation are always a difficult topic of negotiation. They touch on the tradition and temper of the people of any country that enters into a security pact. They have a bearing on the sovereignty of any such nation. Security pacts and treaties should not and cannot be treated lightly. As a consequence, negotiations on such treaties are always bound to be protracted, precisely because they have to be durable legal instruments. The words in the (?proposed) treaty must reflect the intentions of the parties negotiating.

It may well be that the gap between the positions of Lesotho and South Africa will be bridged in an atmosphere of goodwill, mutual respect, and genuine recognition of the interests of the peoples of both countries. The prospects are there, and advantage should be taken for the good of those countries, taking account in particular of the interests and obligations of both countries to international convention arising out of membership, in the case of Lesotho, in the United Nations and other organizations.

'Minor' Reshuffle of Cabinet Ministers Announced

MB161650 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Government of Lesotho has announced a minor reshuffle of Cabinet ministers. The minister of cooperatives and rural development, the Honorable Vincent Montsi Makhele, has been appointed as new minister of foreign affairs. He replaces the Honorable Evaristus Retselistitsoe Sekhonyana, who retains his portfolio as minister of planning, employment, and economic affairs. The honorable minister of works, Lekhoana Jonathan, has been appointed to act temporarily as minister of cooperatives and rural development.

UDP Leader Urges Vote for BCP's Mokhetle

MB161227 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Reports received from Butha Buthe indicate that the leader of the United Democratic Party [UDP] Mr Seedi Mofeli, held a pitso [meeting of elders] at (Ha Gebele) in the Butha Buthe District recently, at which he urged the people to vote for the self-exiled leader of the Basotholand Congress Party [BCP], Mr Ntsu Mokhetle.

According to some of those who attended the pitso, Mr Mofeli and his lieutenants said if those people voted for Mokhetle, they would get a lot of assistance from South Africa. Mr Mofeli is a former member of the BCP and former collegue of Mr Mokhetle, who now lives in South Africa.

Eyewitness accounts at the pitso at (Ha Gabele) indicates that Mr Mofeli's sentiments were thoroughly rejected by the people because they said they vehemently refused to be ruled by Boers. Political observers believe that Mr Mofeli's use of Ntsu Mokhetle's name is an indication of his realization that his political rhetoric will produce no assemblance of victory for him in the forthcoming general election.

Letters of support for the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, and the Basotho National Party, BNP, have since been received from many parts of the country. In addition, the Butha Buthe constituencies have promised the prime minister an election victory for the BNP. The senior constituency in the district became only the second in the country to present a candidate for the party in the person of the minister of finance, the Honorable K.T.J. Rakhetla. The first constituency to do so was Mpuarane in the Mohale's Hoek District which chose Dr Jonathan.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Kill 6 'Bandits,' Capture 9

MB162002 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A total of nine armed bandits were captured by the Mozambique Armed Forces yesterday during a hot pursuit operation in The (Alto Mutola) area of Maganja da Costa

District, Zambezia Province. According to information received from the military command in that district, during the same operation, our Armed Forces killed six armed bandits and recovered a number of articles stolen from the civilians by the armed bandits.

Maputo Reports Machel Visit to Bulgaria

MB160547 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] President Samora Machel will make a working and friendly visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the second half of this month. A communique from the Mozambique's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released in Maputo last night says that the supreme leader of our country will make the visit at the invitation of Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

NAMIBIA

Four Civilians Killed in Landmine Blast

MB161952 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Another four civilians have died and three more injured in a landmine explosion near Oshakati in Ovambo this afternoon. The names of the dead are not yet known. Three people died in a similar incident near Oshakati on Sunday.

Ban on WINDHOEK OBSERVER Stands; Paper Closed

Editor Interviewed by SAPA

MB160931 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1106 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Windhoek, Aug 16 SAPA — A last attempt would be made today to prolong for two months the life of the *WINDHOEK OBSERVER* so that its affairs could be wound up, the newspaper's editor, Mr Hannes Smith, said today.

Mr Smith and his legal advisers are due to meet the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, later today.

Dr van Niekerk is empowered by law to overrule the Committee of the Directorate for Publications that decided in Cape Town yesterday to ban the August 4 issue of the weekly newspaper and all future editions.

Mr Smith, 51, said he needed the time to enable his staff to look for alternative employment and to let his two daughters aged 14 and 11 to finish the school year in SWA/Namibia.

He intended to leave SWA/Namibia, the country of his birth, at the end of the year to take on employment outside journalism in a foreign country, probably Canada.

Mr Smith, who has been in journalism for 28 years, emphasised that he had no plans for campaigning abroad on the SWA/Namibian issue, or to return to the territory.

"For me the crusade has ended. I was not destined to see my people achieving nationhood with one allegiance and a common fatherland," he told SAPA.

"I am personally very heartbroken and very sad for I cannot part with the belief that in six and a half years of troubled life, the *WINDHOEK OBSERVER* did make a contribution to the country that sustained it."

Mr Smith said his newspaper had adopted an unusual journalistic approach, using "shock" tactics, to fight for its beliefs of an unfragmented country and a common national objective in SWA/Namibia.

"That led us into bitter confrontation with the authorities of the day, which was further compounded by our efforts to highlight what we believed was maladministration and even corruption at times," he said.

"The lethal blow was when we warned against the consequences of mechanised war, not with SWAPO but against other powerful forces.

"The foundation for this impending conflagration has been laid on both sides.

"That brought us in heavy disfavour with influential people and we wrote our own death certificate as a result."

Mr Smith said he was departing with a sense of "immense sadness"

"My people are suffering and I tried to alleviate that suffering.

"How I am going to live without my newspaper, I do not know," Mr Smith said.

The Directorate for Publications notified the *OBSERVER* in a telegram yesterday that the newspaper had been declared undesirable in terms of section 47 (2)(a) and (e) of the publications act.

The two sections state that publications will be deemed undesirable if they, or parts of them are (a) "indecent, obscene or offensive or harmful to public morals" and (e) "prejudicial to the safety of the state, the general welfare or the peace and good order."

Niekerk Declines To Intervene

MB161235 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1225 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Windhoek, Aug 16, SAPA — The administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has declined to intervene in a decision by a committee of the Directorate of Publications to ban the *WINDHOEK OBSERVER*, staff members of the newspaper said.

"The *OBSERVER* is now closed," they said, adding that they were not aware of plans to publish an alternative paper.

The editor of the newspaper, Mr Hannes Smith, and his legal advisers met Dr van Niekerk today in an attempt to prolong the life of the newspaper for two months to enable them to wind up its affairs.

The meeting lasted about five minutes and Dr van Niekerk informed Mr Smith that "the matter is out of my hands".

Mr Smith said earlier that he planned to leave journalism and seek employment outside Africa, probably Canada, after the closure of the .

He planned to leave by the end of the year.

The *WINDHOEK OBSERVER*, a weekly newspaper, first appeared on May 6, 1978.

Mudge Opens Congress of Republican Party
MB160943 Windhoek OBSERVER in English
4 Aug 84 p 29

[Text] Windhoek — Did the Republican Party wish to remain a White clique, or how would it play its role? Would the DTA remain an alliance or could it become a political party? Was Resolution 435 workable or not? Did the Republican Party [RP] agree or disagree regarding the Cuban troop presence in Angola? These were some of the questions raised by the leader of the Republican Party, Mr Dirk Mudge, when he opened the eighth Congress on Tuesday of this week, adding that these were questions which would have to be discussed by delegates.

Flanked on the platform by Mr Bertie Botha, Mr Hans Staby and Dr Paul van der Merwe, Mr Mudge said that "I believe we are facing serious problems". Decisions would have to be taken in an effort to solve these problems, he added.

Turning to the Multi-Party Conference, Mr Mudge said the MPC was a "coming-together of independent, sovereign political organisations with different, and even conflicting policies". One thing they all had in common, however, he continued, was they believed that differences could be solved in a peaceful way, and to see if consensus could be achieved on basic and fundamental aspects.

The MPC, he said, wished to attain a constitutional dispensation which would ensure that democracy was maintained and which would guarantee the existence of political parties. "We are not trying to work out a one-party state," Mr Mudge added.

He emphasised that "SWAPO had been invited, and was still welcome to join the deliberations of the MPC". The MPC was not an anti-SWAPO front, he said, adding that if it had been they would not have invited SWAPO to participate.

Mr Mudge continued to say that the object was to work out a constitution or find a framework in which political democracy could be continued. Like any game between two sides he said, there had to be rules. There would still be room for policy differences, he said, but certain rules should not be changed.

Referring to the Republican Party, Mr Mudge told his audience that the RP and DTA still had a role to play, and had plans for the future. He urged the MPC to hasten its deliberations on the question of a constitutional dispensation for the country.

It was not the task of the MPC to make itself known to the world, nor to make itself popular, continued Mr Mudge, adding that it was the task of the MPC to draw up a constitution for the country. There were those people who talked of an interim government or a government of national unity, but the country could not get away from independence, and a constitution was needed if independence was to be achieved.

The MPC could postpone the writing of a constitution unless the Constituent Assembly had been elected, said Mr Mudge, adding that they would then be unprepared when it came about. The present time should be used in order to draw up a constitution. Such a constitution should not be drawn up by constitutional experts, Mr Mudge added. For him a constitution had to be in the hearts of the people, and it was done with hard work, and not in closed conference rooms.

When constitution-making came about he said, the MPC would not enjoy the same enthusiasm as when they had travelled Africa together. Constroversial matters such as second tier governments, apartheid, human rights would have to be discussed and there would be differences on these issues, he warned.

He then went on to mention topics which the Republican Party congress would need to discuss, such as whether the RP wished to remain a White clique, as Mr Mudge called it, and if so, whether it would be able to justify and defend its position? In the same way, the DTA should come under scrutiny. Should it remain an alliance or become a party, and if the latter, then it should be done because it was right and not because it was expedient to do so.

"I am tired of saying Resolution 435 is the only concrete plan on the table. So what?" asked Mr Mudge. The point was whether it could work or not.

Mr Mudge also expressed dissatisfaction about the present one-man government in this country, saying that it was never the intention that this country have such a one-man government. The intention was, he said, that the administrator general should govern the territory for seven months when implementation of Resolution 435 had started, so that the political parties could campaign freely, and so that no party would be advantaged.

Yet the administrator general had governed this country for almost seven years, and not seven months, and this was a highly unsatisfactory situation, said Mr Mudge. Decisions were taken and later it was said that South-West Africa had decided.

He referred to present plans for the closure of certain rail branches in the country, adding that he presumed the decision would be taken by the South African Government, and that this was not a satisfactory situation.

Republican Party Issues Statement After Conference
MB041010 Windhoek OBSERVER in English
4 Aug 84 p 17

[Text] In a statement tonight, the Republican Party expressed its anxiety that South-West Africa was being governed in accordance with an incomplete constitution and that on the level of the Central Government there was no official opposition, with the result that the voters of the country had no say in the government. The statement was issued shortly after the conclusion of the annual congress of the Republican Party.

Dealing with the resolutions passed at the congress, the statement said that the Republican Party reaffirmed its full support to the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance as the only political organisation which had succeeded in bringing about conciliation and cooperation between the various populations and race groups, and yielding a positive contibution to unity, the building of a nation and promoting a common loyalty towards the Fatherland.

The statement said that the Republican Party accepted as its call, the organisation of those the party represented and to motivate them to participate in the political and constitutional process, with a view to protect the future and the interests of the country.

Alluding to the fact that the Republican Party only has White membership, the statement said that the composition and membership rested purely on practical considerations, and that racist motives played no role whatsoever.

The document said that the party accepted the Bill of Fundamental Rights of the Multi-Party Conference issued earlier in the year as the cornerstone of a generally-accepted permanent constitution for a democratic, fair and viable dispensation in a sovereign South-West Africa.

The party called on the DFA to consider supporting the point of view of the Multi-Party Conference to compile without delay, a draft constitution complying with the realities and needs of South-West Africa and through that to make a contribution to the establishment of democracy.

The statement also urged that the proposed constitution be compiled in accordance with the Bill of Fundamental Rights to provide for a seperation of legislative, executive and judicial branches of government.

The statement said that the congress held in Windhoek during the past two days noted once again with dismay, that the democratic right of the voter over two levels of government, had been suspended, namely an election to elect representatives for a central authority and for the third tier of government, municipalities. Elections could not take place only on the second tier level, the statement noted.

The statement said that the Republican Party congress felt very strongly about this matter and requested that means and ways be investigated to redress the situation.

As a result of these deficiencies and practices the country and its people were seriously being affected.

The Republican Party, the statement said, was also appalled that matters could still continue indefinitely as a result of the impracticality of Resolution 435 because of its inherent deficiencies, such as the presence of Cuban troops in Angola, partiality on the part of the United Nations and hostile and violent actions of SWAPO against the population. It was the attitude of the Republican Party, the statement said, that implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435, without prior conciliation, could lead to civil war.

The Republican Party congress also expressed anxiety about what it called the too slow pace of the Multi-Party Conference to bring about solutions to the problems. As a result of this slow pace, the Republican Party congress was requesting the DTA to arrange for a congress as soon as possible so that the DTA, represented countrywide, discussed the aforementioned problems and arrive at solutions.

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA Envoy Speech at Security Council Debate
MB161435 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1825 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 16, SAPA — South Africa tonight questioned the validity of the UN Security Council debate on the republic's constitutional reforms and stated that it rejected any attempt to interfere in its internal affairs and that it would "in no way be impressed or influenced" by the debate proceedings.

In a scathing speech to the UN body today — copies of which were made available in Pretoria — South Africa's ambassador to the UN, Dr Kurt von Schirnding, branded the debate as a "mockery" of the council's principles, and charged that the council had no right to hear it.

He said the debate concerned constitutional arrangements within South Africa, which was manifestly an internal affair and, as such, in the explicit terms of the UN Charter, was beyond the "ambit of this or any other organ of the United Nations." The fact that the debate had been called pointed once again to the "irresponsible nature" of the anti-South Africa campaign, he asserted.

The South African ambassador pointed out the organisation's founders had intended that the Security Council should deal objectively with grave issues of international peace and security. "But this meeting has absolutely nothing to do with international peace and security, and accordingly it makes a mockery of the principles for which this council was established," he said, adding the UN had become widely known as an "ineffectual" organisation.

"What is more, with this debate the Security Council has become an object of ridicule," he added. "This is an irregular meeting, an uncalled for meeting. Whatever decisions may emanate from the council's proceedings, they will be irrelevant. My government rejects them in advance," he asserted.

"The fact that this debate was called points once again to the

irresponsible nature of the anti-South African campaign at the United Nations." The promoters of the campaign were concerned that they were continuing to lose ground, he stated.

"Thrown into disarray by the achievements recorded by the South African Government, they are seeking to regroup by means of this irregular meeting of the Security Council. Those who persistently break the ground rules of this organisation (the UN) will not be persuaded by reasoned argument. Prejudice is not inclined to yield to reason and through the decades, anti-South African prejudice has been entrenched and institutionalised here," Dr Von Schirnding said.

He questioned whether the meeting implied that the Security Council now proposed to "pronounce upon" the constitutions of other member states in the future. "Or is this debate simply a further manifestation of the twisted logic of certain members of this organisation who, in pursuing their vendetta against South Africa, will stop at nothing, even to the extent of blatantly violating the statute of this organisation?"

He also questioned by what authority the majority of members of the UN presumed to speak on the subject of constitutions. "In one after another of them (the member states) constitutions — both inherited and home-made — have been torn up and tossed aside. Time and again power has been assumed by political or military dicatorships. The people have had no say in the matter. Coups occur so regularly that even students of international affairs lose count of them," Dr Von Schirnding stated.

"Mr President, South Africa categorically rejects any attempt to interfere in its internal affairs, and will in no way be impressed or influenced by the proceedings here today." The South African ambassador then went on — "for the sake of those governments who have a genuine interest in the peace, stability, and progress of Southern Africa" — to sketch the constitutional changes that were taking place in South Africa.

He said South African sought to come to terms with the complexities and realities of the Southern African sub-continent and with the challenges posed by its diversity. "It does so, not because of any exceptional insight or political wisdom, but more simply because of its centuries of experience with what is perhaps the most complex society on earth...a population altogether of minorities — of White people, brown people, people of Asian origin and various black peoples, Christians, Hindus, Muslims and pagans. First world, but all of them human beings entitled to recongnition of their human dignity," he said.

It was a distortion to allege that blacks had been omitted from the political process, he added. "Whether this council likes it or not, a substantial percentage of the black peoples of South Africa opted for political independence years ago," he stated, adding that this was a clear maifestation of their (the blacks) right to self-determination. Today there were four independent black states — "whether the world recognises them or not."

But the time had come to include in the overall pattern of multi-national development and cooperative co-existence the Coloureds and the Indians — in a meaningful way — in the decision-making process. "The approach in their case must of necessity be different, owing to different historical and cultural circumstances," Dr Von Schinrding said.

He said the new constitution provided for a parliament of three houses — one for the White, one for the Coloured and one for the Indian communities. Each house would deal with its own community's affairs, while matters of common concern would be submitted to all three.

"This is a system that is designed to do away with confrontational politics where parties are committed to opposition to one another," he stated, saying the emphasis would be on consensus. To achieve this, there would be joint select committees on matters such as finance, justice, defence, and foreign affairs on which Whites, Indians and Coloureds would be represented, and whose task it would be to discuss legislation about which there was disagreement among the houses.

"The purpose of these discussions will be to find a way to change proposed legislation in such a way that it will be acceptable to the majority," Dr Von Schirnding said.

"Political power is being spread across the country's communities — through autonomous institutions in their national states to the black peoples, and now through the new tricameral parliament to the Coloured and Indian population groups," the ambassador said.

He said black urban communities were being granted local government powers as extensive as those of cities like Johannesburg and Pretoria.

A special cabinet committee was also investigating the position of blacks living outside the national and independent states, in consultation with the leaders of the widest spectrum of opinion. "It is a task to which the highest importance and priority are attached. This is an area where there must and will be constructive development in the coming years. What the government is seeking are structures which will provide for the political aspirations of all the peoples of South Africa, while protecting the rights of minorities."

Dr Von Schirnding quoted from a speech made by the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, during his recent European shuttle, in which he said he believed South Africa was creating a "realistic basis for productive political co-existence in South Africa."

Progress was a continuing process, Dr Von Schirnding said. "But our purposes are clear enough. We also seek to secure fundamental rights — namely, the opportunity for men and women to be true to themselves, and to their kind, and to be safeguarded against domination by others. This, surely, is a bold and imaginative bid for the realistic and fair ordering of a most complex society. It deserves, but does not always receive, the support of democratic governments, and it is a preposterous that it should be condemned by dicatorships, one-party states and regimes of one kind or another."

While most of the member states of the UN continued to slide into increasing economic retrogression, while peoples of many of

the countries of the world were today poorer, hungrier and sicker than they were 25 or 30 years ago, the progress which South Africa's peoples were making was there for all to see.

According to reliable estimates five million children would die of starvation in Africa this year, Dr Von Schirnding said. "Little wonder then that there are at least one and a half million foreign workers earning their living in South Africa," he mused. Most of these people crossed South Africa's borders illegally, in search of the most fundamental human rights — food, shelter, clothing, work, medical facilities and education, he said. They risked arrest by crossing the republic's borders to find freedom from starvation and social upheaval.

He added that in the majority of the countries which were members of the UN, there was irrefutable evidence that political freedom was becoming more restricted than ever before. "This, Mr President, is the supreme irony of the debate. While South Africa is broadening the base of political participation at all levels, this council arrogates to itself the right to pronounce upon the merits of South Africa's constitution," he stated.

He added the United Nations had not had the courage to come to terms with the hard realities existing in many parts of the world.

Meetings Between SRA-RENAMO Spur Speculation

RENAMO Delegation in Pretoria

MB161325 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A delegation from the Mozambique National Resistance [RENAMO] is in Pretoria and may meet with the South African Government. South African Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha made the announcement following talks with a Mozambican Government delegation this morning. The meeting between the two governments is the second this week and it is thought security matters were discussed. However, there is no official word of this.

Botha said a RENAMO delegation was in Pretoria, but refused to say whether it would meet with the government. He said it is understandable that after important talks with Maputo the South African Government would also like to talk to RENAMO. The [word indistinct] Nkomati Accord signed between the two countries, neither country can allow its territory to be used for acts of aggression against the other. It has been alleged in the past that RENAMO is provided with logistical and financial support by Pretoria, something that has been denied by Botha.

Speculation on Talks

LD170054 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese
2300 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Although at the official level everything is (?shrouded in secrecy), indirect talks between the Maputo government and the Mozambican National Resistance [RENAMO] are said to have taken place earlier today in Pretoria, with South Africa acting as mediator. The South African Government would only confirm that a RENAMO delegation was in the country, adding nothing further.

Jacinto Veloso, who had arrived in South Africa for talks with the South African Government, denied there was any plan for direct talks with the resistance, but admitted that South Africa had informed the Maputo government in advance of Pretoria having invited RENAMO to send a delegation.

Some Portuguese with links with both sides are said to have helped to bring about today's talks between Maputo and RENAMO. Joao Santa Rita, of the South African newspaper *STAR* is on the line from Johannesburg:

[Santa Rita] High-level Portuguese public figures were involved in the diplomatic contacts which led to today's talks in Pretoria between the Mozambique Government and RENAMO. Well-informed Portuguese sources said here in Johannesburg today that the public figures involved had the possibilities of maintaining contacts with the Maputo authorities as well as with the RENAMO representatives. Although the identity of these Portuguese figures has not been disclosed, it is known that a number of them are Lisbon politicians while others are Portuguese living in South Africa.

Pik Botha Discusses Talks

MB161405 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1348 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 16, SAPA — A delegation from the Mozambique Resistance Movement [MNR] is in Pretoria today while a top-level Mozambique Government team talks with the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, but it is unlikely the Mozambican Government and rebel teams will meet. Mr Botha confirmed the rebels' presence in Pretoria at a brief press conference at the government guest house, where he and Mozambique's economics minister, General Jacinto Veloso, are continuing Monday's talks on the security problem caused by the MNR in Mozambique, and on the Nkomati Accord's implementation.

"Yes, they are here" he told reporters just after General Veloso had said, when the question was put to him, that he was not aware of the "so-called RENAMO's" presence in the city. "All I can say is that South Africa will do nothing to violate the spirit and letter of the Nkomati Accord ... we will do nothing that is against the wishes of the Mozambique Government," Mr Botha said when asked if he was playing a "middleman" role in bringing Mozambique's Government and the MNR together across the negotiating table.

"It would be understandable that after today's important discussions with General Veloso, we would like to talk to the MNR," He replied when asked if the MR delegation would be meeting the South African Government today. "But we will play no role against the wishes of the governments we recognise."

Mr Botha said his confirmation of the MNR'S presence 'must

also be news to General Veloso ... but the mere fact they are here does not mean he is against their being here."

Earlier Mr Botha said his talks today with General Veloso were a continuation of talks held in Pretoria on Monday on the implementation of the Nkomati non-aggression pact signed with Mozambique in March, and the security problem caused by the MNR.

At a press conference then, Both Mr Botha and General Veloso expressed their governemnts' determination to sucessfully implement the accord, but said the security problem in Mozambique would have to be sorted out first. They would continue to meet "frequently in the near future" until the problem was "sorted out once and for all" and agreement reached between South Africa and Mozambique.

Today's talks would continue this afternoon. "I actually have nothing to add," Mr Botha said.

The talks had centred on economic issues and security, which were of great importance to both governments as well as Southern Africa. "They were useful and constructive talks and both governments remain confident the spirit and letter of the Nkomati Accord can be implemented" he said.

Maputo Cites RSA Foreign Minister on MNR Talks

MB161957 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Mozambique and South Africa today resumed high-level talks in Pretoria aimed at resolving security problems in line with the Nkomati nonaggression pact which was signed 5 months ago today. As at Monday's meeting, the two sides were headed by Mozambican economic affairs minister, Jacinto Veloso, and South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha.

It was agreed at Monday's talks that decisive steps would be taken within the next few weeks toward a solution of the security problem in Mozambique.

The discussions followed intense rumors about nongovernmental forces in South Africa keeping up links with the MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] bandits in Mozambique. Roelof Botha said on Monday that if there was evidence that this was the case, his government would not hesitate to act firmly in terms of the spirit and letter of the Nkomati Accord.

This afternoon, Mr Botha was reported as hinting at the possibility of talks in Pretoria between the South African government and representatives of the armed bandits. According to South Africa's Capital Radio, Mr Botha said it was understandable that after important talks with Maputo, the South African Government would also like to talk to the MNR.

Bomb Rips Through Soweto Police Offices

Fire Rages After Explosion

MB161528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] There was a bomb explosion in the Roodepoort city center at about 1530 this afternoon. The explosion ocurred in the city center building in (Lutting) Street, which houses offices of the Department of Internal Affairs and local police headquarters.

Details of the extent of the explosion are not yet known, but a spokesman for the Roodepoort Traffic Department has said that no one was seriously injured. Several people were slightly injured at least three have been admitted to the Discovery and (Larathong) Hospitals.

Police cordoned off the area and closed streets imediately after the explosion. (Luttig) Street was closed between (Verlinda) and Van Wyk Streets and part of (Burger) Street was also closed.

A fire broke out after the explosion and considerable damage is reported to have been caused to the third floor of the building. There was an explosion in the same building last year.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said a short while ago that four people had been injured and that a black woman was missing. He said the fire on the third and fourth floors of the building was still raging. [Johannesburg SAPA in English reports at 1522 GMT that "the fire was brought under control by 5 pm."]

ANC Believed Responsible

MB170717 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, says that although the ANC has not yet accepted responsibility for the bomb explosion in the City Center Building in Roodeport, there are strong indications that the organization was responsible for the blast. Mr le Grange, who visited the scene of the explosion yesterday, accompanied by the deputy commissioner of police, General (Hennie de Witt), said earlier that a limpet mine had caused the blast. The bomb is thought to have exploded between the police headquarters for Soweto East and the office of the Mozambican Labor Department on the third floor of the building.

Five policemen were injured in the blast. One of the policemen, the district commissioner for Soweto East, Colonel B.J. van der Berg, has been admitted to the Discovery Hospital with serious injuries. The others, Captain (van Zyl-Jonker), Warrant Officer (J.J. Botha), Sergeant (T.A. Memethe), and Constable (K.I. Moroka), were discharged after treatment.

R.F. Botha Cited on Country's Regional Role

MB160812 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Station commentary: "South Africa's Relations With Africa"]

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr R.F. Botha, says South Africa is an African power which no longer sees itself as merely an extension of the West. In an interview in the latest edition of the American publication *THE JOURNAL OF DEFENSE AND DIPLOMACY* he says South Africa will no longer allow its cultural and sentimental ties with Europe and North America influence its foreign policy.

Mr Botha makes the point that South Africa continues to share certain common interests with some Western countries. He refers in particular to the perception it shares with the current U.S. Administration of the threat of Soviet expansionism in the world, but he stresses the fact that South Africa will have to take this reality into account.

Since the early sixties, one of the cornerstones of South Africa's foreign policy has been the sustained promotion of regional cooperation. It was during this period that feelers were put out to African states regarding South Africa's attitude of good neighborliness. In 1967 South Africa established diplomatic relations with Malawi, and trade relations with the Ivory Coast and Mauritius. These initiatives, mounted with the support of President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and former American Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger, paved the way for later missions to the heart of Africa.

Much more recently, with the Nkomati Accord and other agreements with neighboring states, South Africa has again demonstrated its commitment to peaceful coexistence with its neighbors and its ability to play a constructive role in the subcontinent. The established image of South Africa now is that of a stable force to be reckoned with in the search for solutions to the region's problems.

Recognition by the West of this reality was the invitation to the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, to visit various European countries. In the words of the foreign ministesr, South Africa no longer intends to apologize for its existence or for its determination to play its role as a stable and resourceful African power.

Transkei Leader Says RSA Must Cede Districts

MB171010 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0931 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Umtata, Aug 17, SAPA — There would never be peace in South Africa until the republic handed over to Transkei those districts that historically belonged to the territory, Transkei's President Kaiser Matanzima told the South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha this week.

In a Transkei radio broadcast today President Matanzima outlined talks held with Mr Botha in Queenstown earlier this week.

He said he had informed Mr Botha that Transkei would never stop claiming for its own the districts of Elliot, Maclear and Mount Currie.

In the broadcast, he urged the South African Government to be honest regarding that land which historically belonged to Transkei, and to hand over the three districts.

The president said he and Mr Botha had "dwelt at length on the matter and I based my arguement on recorded historical facts, telling Mr Botha there will be no peace in South Africa until these areas are handed over to us."

The fact that the three districts still formed part of South Africa put in doubt the issue of Transkei citizenship.

He explained that it was a condition of acceptance of self-government in 1963, and of independence in 1976, that the disputed areas be included inside Transkei's borders.

President Matanzima said he did not mind if the farmers on the land at present were to remain there, as long as they paid allegiance to the Transkei Government and to achieve this he was even prepared to sign agreements with South Africa.

He said the next meeting between representatives from the two countries would be held in November, when members of the South African president's council would be visiting Transkei.

Leaders Accuse UDF of ANC Affiliations

MB170701 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Prominent Colored and Indian political leaders have accused the United Democratic Front [UDF] of having ideological and other affiliations with the ANC terrorist organization. Interviewed by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, the leader of the National People's Party, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said the UDF and the ANC had identical ideological affiliations. He said that although no one had internally advocated a policy of violence, it was significant that the UDF had never condemned bomb blasts in South Africa.

The leader of the Labor Party, Rev Alan Hendrickse, said that if the UDF was not seeking a peaceful solution in terms of participating within the new constitutional structure, then obviously it was opting for violence. Mr Hendrickse said the UDF was responsible for growing Marxist influences among young people. It was playing on their emotions and using youngsters as cannon fodder.

The leader of the People's Congress Party, Mr Peter Marais, accused the UDF of adopting gestapo tactics and mass indoctrination. It was trying to create an atmosphere of fear because fearful people were easily influenced, he said. The leader of Solidarity, Dr J.N. Reddy, said the philosophy of the boycotters was in keeping with the philosophy of the ANC. He said that today there was more active application of the philosophy whereby things were done that could bring chaos and anarchy to the country.

Speaking during the same interview, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said national objectives of upholding civilized standards, free initiative and economics, and the protection of minority and group rights were in conflict with the ideology of the ANC. Commenting on whether ANC ideology held any worthwhile solutions to South Africa's problems, Mr Heunis said the ANC propagated a socialist, one-party state, which was the opposite of what South Africa believed in. He said the ANC's methods of sabotage, terrorism, and violence militated against the concept of evolutionary development in South Africa.

The leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Arthur Booysen, said that direct representation for Coloreds in the three-chamber parliament is an important point of departure, and that the new dispensation has created a negotiating platform enabling Coloreds to obtain maximum benefit. Mr Booysen said at a public meeting at (Heiderdal) near Bloemfontein that the Freedom Party supported the principles of power sharing and joint decision-making as provided for in the new dispensation.

Prime Minister on Language, Election Issues

MB170612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says it will be shown in the near future that he is prepared to use people of both language groups in the administration of the country. Speaking at a National Party banquet in Durban, Mr Botha said he was aware of the attempts being made in some quarters to create suspicion about the amount of acknowledgment the government gave to members of other language groups in the administration.

Mr Botha said blatant attempts to create the impression that he would not make use of all the available manpower would not succeed. The prime minister said he would not refrain from carrying out in practice what he believed to be right. With reference to the coming Colored and Indian elections, Mr Botha said he had sufficient confidence in the balanced thinking and reasonableness of most South Africans to believe that they would steer away from confrontation politics. He expressed the hope that all eligible voters would cast their votes in a spirit of dedication and responsibility. Although there were voices of negativism and boycott which wanted to divert the attention of Coloreds and Indians from responsible citizenship, now was the time for all South Africans to take the right course. Mr Botha called on everyone to do their duty on the road of evolutionary development and progress.

Two Views Offered on Problem of Black Students

Commentary on Boycott

MB170919 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Political propaganda is being made of the fact that 19,000 black pupils in South Africa are boycotting their schools, ostensibly because of grievances against the country's educational system. We agree no one will argue against the fact that there are shortcomings in South Africa's educational system, especially as far as black pupils are concerned.

The underlaying reason for the boycott is not the grievances. It is clearly exploitation of black pupils by political activists supporting revolutionary organizations, such as the ANC terrorist organization and its fellow travelers. The full facts concerning the boycott are seldom given. The 19,000 pupils taking part in boycotts are just over 0.3 percent of the almost 6 million black pupils at school in South Africa. Also only 17 of the country's 7,000 black schools are affected.

So, whatever is said about the boycott is completely out of proportion to the true context, although almost negligible, priority attention is being given by the black education authorities to the problems of the boycotters in an effort to iron out any genuine grievances. South Africa has a proud record of having by far the most literate and educated black people in Africa.

Although there is a teacher shortage, 70 percent of all school teachers in Southern Africa are in South Africa. The standard of education for all South Africans is the same, irrespective of color or creed. The quality of black education is admittedly lower than that for Whites, but this is because of the black education explosion of the past decade.

Five years ago, only 326 million rand was being spent annually on black education. Last year, it was three times as much at 911 million rand. Forty or more classrooms for black pupils are being completed each working day, and the endeavour is lodged that blacks should continue their schooling to the highest possible standards.

Nevertheless, South Africa is coping admirably with the black education explosion. It realizes the problem and is doing every thing possible to cope with them, and maintain its position as Africa's most advanced and most literate country.

Call To Disband DET

MB170926 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 19 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "It's Time To Disband Det"]

[Text] The Department of Education and Training [DET] must take a very critical look at itself.

The school boycotts spreading to various parts of the country are reaching crisis proportions. Reports of violence and confrontations between police and students are pouring in at an alarming rate.

What is worse is that a student has already lost his life.

We have long advised the government to abandon the system of racial education in South Africa. At the heart of the problem is the sincere belief in the minds and hearts of students and their parents that they are getting an inferior education.

Indeed, when one compares the annual matric results, one cannot escape the truth of that belief.

Until these suspicions are allayed, the problem will continue. Even more serious, in our view, is the refusal by DET officials to recognise that high school students are not kindergarten kids, but people who are beginning to be affected by their political, economic, and social experiences.

Just as Afrikaner children are deeply engrossed in the debate on the future of their people, so are black children. It is an act we must come to accept as a reality.

We believe that to overcome the crisis the government should:

Immediately disband the DET and bring education under the blanket of one education ministry — and thereby help depoliticise education.

Accept the system of student-parent-teacher associations whereby better communication and ideas can flow in an atmosphere of calm instead of confrontation.

Sensitize DET officials so they can deal with problems in a far more mature and intelligent manner.

This, and only this can turn back the sea of frustration and anger which has been the hallmark of our education since the late Dr Hendrik Verwoerd stupidly politicised education.

SWAZILAND

Talks Begin Between Swazi-ANC Officials

Delegation Leaves for Zambia

MB161728 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A member of the Supreme Council, Liqoqo, Dr George Msibi, left the country this afternoon at the head of a three-man delegation to Lusaka, Zambia, for high-level talks with Zambian officials. Dr Msibi is accompanied by the minister without portfolio, Mr Mhambi Mnisi; the minister of labor and public service, Mr Mhlangano Matsebula; and the Zambian ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Cox Sikhumba.

A statement from the prime ministers' office said the purpose of the meeting in Lusaka was to resolve differences between the ANC and Swaziland. He said that President Kaunda, as an experienced statesman, would act as arbitrator between the ANC and Swaziland. The Swazi delegation will table the history of the ANC in Swaziland from the time of the late King Sobhuza II up to the incidents between the ANC and Swazi forces early this year.

Our news crew was at Matsapa Airport this afternoon, and Victor Dludlu first asked Dr Msibi what the purpose of the visit was: [Begin recording] [Dludlu] We understand you are going to Zambia. Would you like to explain the purpose of your visit there?

[Msibi] As I have said, Swaziland and Zambia are friendly countries, and there are a number of issues of mutal interest that we have always wanted to discuss. This delegation affords us the opportunity of meeting with President Kaunda and discussing a wide range of subjects.

[Dludlu] Am I made to understand that you have been invited by President Kaunda to go to Zambia?

[Msibi] Yes, we are going there on an invitation from his excellency the president.

[Dludlu] Would you like to comment on allegations that you are likely to meet the ANC leadership in Lusaka?

[Msibi] Well, as I said, and as the prime minister has said before, Swaziland is always prepared to meet with anybody and discuss any issues, and the prime minister has also made it specific that we would be prepared to sit down with the leadership of the ANC and discuss outstanding issues between this country and the ANC. So, if Mr Tambo and the other leaders of the ANC are available in Lusaka when we get there, and if there is time to have discussions with them, and they are prepared to have discussions with us, we will be prepared to talk to them.

[Dludlu] How long are you going to stay in Zambia?

[Msibi] I believe we shall be there for just about a day or two, depending on the extent of the discussions and the range that we will cover. But we should be back over the weekend.

[Dludlu] And who are you taking with you to Zambia?

[Msibi] I am being accompanied by his excellency the minister without portfolio, acting minister of foreign affairs, and acting minister of finance, and also by his excellency the minister of public service and labor, Mr Matsebula.

[Dludlu] Thanks very much Dr Msibi. [end recording]

Differences 'Not Resolved'

MB170807 Mbabane Domestic Service in Siswati 0400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Kingdom of Swaziland has not been persuaded by any source to the Lusaka talks to resolve the differences between the African National Congress, ANC, of South Africa and the Swaziland Government. A spokesman said Swaziland regards the invitation by the Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda, as a good coincidence. The country has been wanting to meet the ANC president, Mr Oliver Tambo, for some time but to no avail, particularly when Mr Tambo decided to dash to ground all invitations to Swaziland.

At the Southern African Coordination Conference, which was held in Gaborone, Botswana, ANC president Tambo was ready to meet with Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi. This meeting was to have discussed developments in cooperation between the Swazi Government and the ANC. On answering questions at the Gaborone Sun Hotel in Gaborone in the presence of newsmen from

Swaziland's broadcasting station, Mr Tambo said he would like to meet with the Swazi Government to discuss matters pertaining to his organization.

The prime minister said Mr Tambo did not show any interest in meeting and talking over this issue. In a private interview, Mr Tambo said that his organization needs support and little incidents that were caused by his organization should be forgotten. He also asked why it is that South African newspapers get information from Swaziland and use it against his organization.

The Swazi delegation to Lusaka is led by Dr George Msibi, who is a member of the Liqoqo. He is accompanied by the minister without portfolio, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, and the Minister of labor and public service, Mr Mhlangano Matsebula.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Addresses Delegations at Swazi-ANC Talks

MB170707 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Talks aimed at resolving differences between the Swazi Government and the ANC started at State House yesterday. Speaking before the start of talks, President Kaunda said the continuing understanding between the two parties was very essential. Dr Kaunda outlined the problems that caused the Mozambican Government to sign the Nkomati Accord that later led to the expulsion of the ANC cadres from that country, and those that forced Swaziland to sign a similar accord 2 years ago. The president said Zambia learned through the notorious Mushala gang what South Africa's intentions were. He said the aim of Mushala, who was killed by security forces last year, was to turn Zambia into a bantustan. Dr Kaunda hoped the two parties would solve their differences through understanding of their respective positions.

The Swazi delegation is headed by a member of the Supreme Council of State, Liqoqo, George Msibi, and the ANC delegation is headed by its president, Oliver Tambo, and Secretary General Alfred Nzo.

Kaunda Says RSA Reforms To Hoodwink West

MB170629 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, described the constitutional changes that are to take place in South Africa as cosmetic changes designed at hoodwinking the West. Speaking at State House last night, when the UN Ad Hoc Committee on Human Rights called on him, Dr Kaunda said the constitutional changes will not take into consideration the black majority. The president said the changes were plans of getting support from the so-called powers by the South African Government. Dr Kaunda said Zambia condemns the system of apartheid as a matter of principle.

The president said the ANC will not chase the White man into the ocean when it took over. The president explained to the committee how South Africa had trained the Mozambique Resistance Movement against Mozambique, UNITA forces against the government of Angola, the Mushala gang against Zambia, and thousands to fight against the government of Zimbabwe's prime minister, Robert Mugabe.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Discusses 1-Party State, RSA Pact

MB160843 Harare Domestic Service in English
0800 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Zimbabwe does not need an Nkomati-type of agreement with racist South Africa. The prime minister made this remark while reacting to a suggestion made in the House of Assembly yesterday. He stressed that such an accord as one recently signed between Mozambique and South Africa is not called for in the case of Zimbabwe. The Conservative Alliance leader, Mr Ian Smith, had suggested that this type of agreement would benefit Zimbabwe and its people and that Comrade Mugabe should take the initiative to bring it about.

On the other hand, the prime minister said South Africa itself had not asked for such an agreement with Zimbabwe. He said he was surprised to hear Mr Smith advocating such an agreement, and it is common knowledge that he was a friend of South Africa and he knew them better than any other people.

In another development, the prime minister announced that ZANU-PF wants to establish a 1-party state soon after general elections early next year. However, Comrade Mugabe said it will ensure that this is not forced upon the people. He said a 1-party state is a sensible state of affairs for it is made for greater democracy. A 1-party state was the way of life in Africa, and it is necessary that it should be established in Zimbabwe as soon as possible. He also assured the house that ZANU-PF would first put the question for debate in the National Assembly.

Mozambique Joint Commission Meets in Harare

MB161735 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Zimbabwe-Mozambique Permanent Joint Commission for Scientific, Economic, and Technical Cooperation has been urged to identify areas where progress has not been made to remove bottlenecks. The call was made in Harare today by the minister of transport, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, when he officially opened the second session of the joint commission.

The session is reviewing progress made since the commission was established in Maputo last year, and other areas of cooperation will also be identified. Comrade Ushewokunze also said the official signing ceremony of the joint commission will be held tomorrow.

Chamber of Commerce Welcomes ZANU-PF Changes
MB160506 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The president of the Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce [ZNCC], Comrade Ernest Chiweshe, has welcomed resolutions passed at the second ZANU-PF national congress which have a bearing on the business community.

Comrade Chiweshe told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation today that the ZNCC accepts increased government participation in major strategic industries in the interest of national security. He also said government participation in the economy should be spread to the communal areas where it can create basic infrastructure to facilitate the entry of the private sector into the rural economy.

Mugabe Tells Leaders: Give Up Property or Resign
MB160938 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] ZANU-PF leaders and officials who had acquired property during the past 4 years must either resign from the leadership or relinquish their property if it exceeds the permissible limit stipulated in the recently announced leadership code. The prime minister made this statement in the House of Assembly yesterday while answering a question from the United African National Council Mashonaland East member of parliament, Dr (Violet Mundawarara).

The prime minister added that although the code is for ZANU-PF leaders and some government officials only, it will be extended to cover all catagories of leaders when Zimbabwe becomes a 1-party state. He emphasized that if some party leaders amassed wealth since independence, they did so knowing that it was against the party's line.

He made abundantly clear this is the time to decide either to maintain their official positions or keep property. ZANU-PF adopted a leadership code at the party's second congress which ended in Harare on Sunday. Under the code, leaders are not allowed to own, among other things, more than 50 acres of land or more than one dwelling house.

Matebeleland South Development Plan Released
MB161740 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A document containing the first phase of the Matebeleland South Provincial Development Plan has been released. The document contains a comprehensive study of the province and its development problems. It also analyses the province's potentials, physical environment, human resources, agriculture, mining, and the industrial sector.

The governor of Matebeleland South, Comrade Mark Dube, says the provincial development plan is in response to the prime minister's announcement of a new local government structure, from provincial governors to village committees. The main thrust of the new structure is to develop a more effective system which involves the local communities in the development process.

Later today, Comrade Dube received 36 mobile units which arrived in Gwanda to speed up the voters' registration exercise in Matebeleland South. He stressed the importance of the registration exercise and called on people to come forward to register.